GUIDE TO

SIMLA



ISSUED WITH THACKER'S SIMLA GUIDE

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GUIDE TO SIMLA

BASED ON

TOWELLE'S "GUIDE TO SIMLA"

WITH TWO MAPS

THACKER, SPINK & Co.
CALCUTTA & SIMLA.

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PREFATORY NOTE.

In bringing this little book to the notice of the public the publishers would mention that it does not profess to be an entirely new work, but is largely based upon Towelle's *Guide*, which is now out of print. The information has, as far as possible, been brought up to date, some obsolete statistics regarding the Hill States have been omitted, and many Routes taken from Montgomerie's *Route Book* and Major Gordon-Forbes' *From Simla to Shipki* have been added. Every effort has been made to prevent errors, but in a work of this sort culled from many sources, discrepancies will occur. The publishers trust the mistakes are few and far between, and that the *Guide* in its present form will prove of use to the travelling public.

Dec. 1901.

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THACKER'S

GUIDE TO SIMLA.

GENERAL GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES.

The District in which the Sanitarium of Simla is situated is the northernmost of the Districts composing the Delhi Division. The District is very much scattered, for it consists of several detached plots of territory, situated in the lower Himalayas between the Sutlej and the Tonse rivers. The area of the District is about 86 square miles,—that of the Sanitarium 6·042 square miles. The Chief Town of the District is called Simla. It is the summer capital of the Government of India and of the Punjab Government. It is also the seat of the Head-Quarters of the Army in India throughout the year. The Station is situated, as regards Latitude and Longitude respectively, as follows: 31° 6′ North Latitude, and Longitude 77° 13′ East, Christ Church being the point fixed upon to determine these figures. It is distant about 76 miles by the most direct route from Amballa. It is surrounded by Hill States as follows: North and West, Pattialà; South and East, Keonthal; North-East, Koti. The settlement con-ains, besides the Station, several villages and several quare miles of forest land. Its height above sea-level s 7,116 feet. It is built upon several hills, and on the idges which connect them, as well as upon the spurs hich emanate from these hills. The principal hills are lled Jakho, 8,048 feet above sea-level at its highest oint; Observatory Hill, 7,007 feet above sea-level at s summit; Prospect Hill, 7,040 feet above sea-level

and Elysium Hill, or as it is also called Stirling Hill, is 7,400 feet in altitude, and the plateau on which Christ Church stands is 7,230 feet. The Giri River runs from the South to the West round the base of the low hills and below Simla, catching the whole of the waters discharged from the watershed of the South and West of Simla. The principal feeder of the Giri is the Ashni or Ashan River, which rises near Mahasu in the Simla Range, and after receiving a considerable contribution from the East face of the hill upon which Simla stands joins the Giri just at the point where that river turns South-East.

To the extreme South from the Church lies Chota Simla and Kasumpti, a sort of suburb, with their respective bazaars. To the North, is the Lakar Bazaar, which, as its Hindustani name imports, is the timber market of the settlement, and the hill of Elysium, considered to be the healthiest part of the Sanitarium and consequently one of the most popular parts of the town. To the North-East, or as it is more generally called the "back of Jakho," are but few houses, this portion being much in shade and exposed to the cold from the Snowy Range. The road leading into the great Hindustan and Thibet road, branches off from Jakho on the East at the village of Sanjaoli towards Mahasu and Mushobra.

At present the main portion of the residences extend over the whole length of a crescent, some six miles in extent from point to point, forming a kind of amphitheatre facing the South. The following quotation from the "Gazetteer of Simla" will best describe the features of this crescent-shaped area:—

"The extreme ends of the Station lie at a distance of about six miles from each other. Eastward the ridge culminates in the Peak of Jakho more than 8,000 feet in height, and nearly 1,000 feet above the average elevation of the Station. Woods of pine, oak and rhododendron clothe its sides" * * *. Another grassy

height, known as Prospect Hill, of inferior elevation to Jakho, closes the western extremity of the crescent. The houses cluster thickest upon the southern slopes of Jakho, and of two other hills lying towards the western end. This is accounted for by reason of the fact, that houses facing south, or having a southern aspect, are warmer, and consequently are more desirable for residences during the winter, early spring and later months of autumn, than those which have a northernly aspect.

The most western section of Simla is called Boileaugunge. Summer and Chadwick Hills, which are to the N.-W. of Boileaugunge, also contain some houses, and will probably be the direction which future extensions of Simla will take. These localities present the advantages of quietness, being some distance removed from Burra Simla and "the busy haunts of men," as well as on account of the pure air. Their distance however from the market and bazaar more or less tends to inconvenience in getting supplies during the rains and winter. Excellent views of the snows and adjacent ranges on all sides present themselves, and add not a little to the attractions of these localities. Simla is now approached by two roads: one the new, or as it is called, the Tonga road; and the other the old road, which is now seldom made use of, but is always kept in repair and fair order. The Tonga road is 58 miles long. It starts from Kalka, passes below Dagshai and Solon and skirting round the Subathu Valley and Barauli, enters Simla about a mile from Christ Church. The old road leads into Simla, which it joins, about a mile from Boileaugunge, and at the hamlet known as Tawi. It passes through Kussowlie, Kukkurhuttee, Hurripur, Subathu and Siri, and past the foot of the Jutogh Hill up to the village of Tawi, above referred to, at the western end of Prospect Hill. It then runs round the north side of Prospect Hill into the Boileaugunge Bazaar.

The Ridge or a neck, which connects the hills on the Boileaugunge side of Simla with the central portion of

the Sanitarium called *Burra Simla*, is known as the *Chowra Maidan.* This Ridge forms the watershed north and south of Simla.

To the north of this Ridge (which extends to Christ Church) and on the north side of Chowra Maidan is the valley or plateau called Annandale. The hills to the north of this road, which is part of the Mall, are called respectively Observatory, Peterhoff and Bentinck Hills. On the south of the Mall and south-east are a series of spurs, all trending towards the Giri. The one running down from east to west is known as the Bemloe spur, at the foot of which is situated Meakin's Brewery ; the other extends down towards the waterfall. On it is situated Dyer's Brewery and above it Bishop Cotton's School. The waterfall receives the drainage of Simla, which runs off into the river Giri.

To adequately describe the scenery of Simla and its vicinity would require the pen of a ready writer of greater ability than the compiler of this guide book, and as conciseness is desirable in a work of this description the writer takes leave to extract the following graphic description from the official work already referred to, and from which it will be necessary throughout this compilation to resort to pretty frequently in order to obtain authentic information.

"The scenery of Simla," says the Editor of this official publication, "is exquisite. The valleys on either side are deep, almost precipitous, and thickly clothed with forest. To the South, on a clear day, the Umballa Plains are distinctly visible with the Kasauli and Subathu hills in the immediate foreground, and the Chor mountain further to the left." It should also here be mentioned that often during the rains, and after a snowfall in winter, the Sutlej may be clearly seen threading its silvery way across the plains towards Rupar and Loodiana. The most beautiful cloud effects, and the almost kaleidoscopic changes of light and shade on the hill sides are most delightful to the eye of

the lover of the beautiful in nature. "To the North and East a network of mountain chains, range rising over range, is crossed in the distance by a magnificent crescent of snowy peaks—the mountains of Kulu and Spiti on the North and the central range of the Eastern Himalayas stretching East and South-East, as far as the eye can reach. The nearest of these peaks—that of Cheru on the confines of Kulu and Mandi over 16,000 in height—is 27 miles in a straight line from Simla, while the nearest of the Central Himalayan peaks is double that distance, yet so sharply defined do they stand out against the horizon through the clear mountain air that space seems annihilated, and the beholder might well believe that a short day's journey would carry him to their base. And if the distant scenery is thus grand, there are not wanting spots of great beauty on the Simla hill itself. The ride round Jakho is of its kind unsurpassed for sublime glimpses of forest scenery, while towards the west the gorges through which streams fed from the hill make their way towards the plains have a beauty of a different kind, which, if less grand, is not less picturesque."

HIGHWAYS AND APPROACHES.

During the Simla season and especially during March and April it is necessary to book places in the Tonga some days in advance. This can be done by a communication addressed to the Tonga Agent at Kalka. Heavy baggage should be sent on by bullock cart and only bedding and hand-bags taken in the passenger tonga.

Kalka to Simla.—The traveller from the plains leaves the Railway at the Kalka Station, and journeys thence by Tonga to Simla. It is hoped that in a couple of years Railway communication will render the Tonga service a thing of the past.

The distance between Umballa and Kalka is 38 miles, and the journey as performed by Railway seldom occupies above 1½ hours.

The Guggar, a torrent which flows down from the mountains, is crossed at about 17 miles before Kalka is reached by an excellent girder bridge of considerable length, for though the stream here is shallow, there is a long extent of sand on either bank, which is covered with water during the monsoon rains, and which has to be traversed by this viaduct. After heavy rain in the hills, this stream becomes much swollen, and the current becomes extremely strong and rapid.

Kalka is 2,400 feet above sea-level. There is a Telegraph Office. Accommodation is to be had at Lawrie's Hotel, five minutes' drive from the station. Here it is necessary for the traveller to decide by which route he intends ascending the hill—there being two, the first the New or Cart road—the second, the old Staging road. The former is the one now most in vogue and is traversed in a Tonga drawn by two ponies harnessed curricle fashion. By the former route the traveller is enabled to complete his journey in about eight hours. By the latter, he proceeds in a jampan or by horse dâk. The journey by this route occupies two days by jampan, and by horse dâk ten to eighteen hours.

Whichever route is decided on, it is desirable to start from Kalka in the morning, as early as possible. Heavy baggage if sent by coolies, will take two days to reach Simla by the old road; or two days in bullock carts by the new road.

Should the traveller have any time to spare, a visit to Pinjore will repay him and help him to pass the time should he have to wait some hours at Kalka before proceeding on his journey up hill. Here are the celebrated gardens belonging to H. H. the Maharajah of Patiala.

The Pinjore gardens were originally laid out by a Mussalman Chief, one of the nobles of the Court of Akbar, and must have been very beautiful, as they

possess many natural advantages, much superior to those enjoyed by the far-famed Shalimar Gardens at Lahore, though now they present a somewhat neglected appearance.

By the New, or Cart Road.

This road originally bore the ostentatious, but perfectly suitable title of "The Great Hindostan-Thibet road," though now the continuation beyond Simla, leading into the interior is alone thus designated. It was commenced in June 1850 by Major Kennedy, Secretary to Sir Charles Napier, the natives for a long time calling it "Kengree Sahib ka Surruck."

Major Kennedy was the Engineer employed under the orders of Sir Charles Napier, to carry out Lord Dalhousie's views regarding the opening of, and constructing a road, that eventually should be the means of bringing the countries lying North of the vast barrier of the Himalayas into more intimate connection in the way of traffic and commerce with British India than had hitherto been practicable. This great undertaking excites admiration, while it tends to enhance in a wonderful manner the comfort of the traveller from the plains. The road is carried with great engineering skill along the sides of the hills, rising so gradually that in many places the ascent is almost imperceptible, the gradient is, on an average, two feet in every hundred, while in some places the road is almost level, so that, when observed from some opposite hill, it has the appearance of a line drawn with mathematical precision across the hill sides. In a very few places, where unavoidable, the gradient rises to the extent of seven per cent.; but this is the exception. Firm and solid bridges have been built over the numerous mountain streams, and where it was found impossible to cut into the massive rock, beams have been inserted into it, supported by cross pieces, on which thick planks are laid and thus a causeway made

running along the very face of the perpendicular rock.

Simla, though situated so far in the interior of the hills, is rendered by this means easily accessible from the plains, and thus the reproach of inaccessibility is effectually removed. Several branch roads have now been completed leading to the Military Stations of Dagshai, Kussowlie and Subathu; also one to Buddee leading directly into the Punjab, all equally good.

Dhurrumpore.—The first stage on the Cart Road is Dhurrumpore, 14 miles from Kalka. Here is a capital Dâk Bungalow, now seldom used, except by travellers from Simla to Kussowlie or *vice versâ*. It is situated just under the hill of Kussowlie.

The traveller passes close under the Dagshai Hill, and has just time to get a glimpse of the barracks, perched high up on its crest, when he is whirled round a corner of the road and they are again lost to view.

Solon.—The second stage is Solon, is just about half-way to Simla, 12 miles from Dhurrumpore, 27 from Kalka, where there is a Government Dâk Bungalow and also a hotel recently started by Mr. G. Law, where refreshments are procurable, or the weary traveller may break the journey and rest a while in comfort. If not tied to time, many travellers to Simla think it advisable to stay *en route* for a day or two at Solon, so as to avoid the sudden transition from the heat of the plains. To such Law's Hotel, or, as the tonga drivers call it, the "New Dâk Bungalow," will afford as comfortable and as wholesome a resting place as they can possibly require. The charges are on the same scale as at the Hill Dâk Bungalows; but the accommodation is much superior. The building, besides, is situated some distance from the bazaar and is therefore quieter and in a more healthy position. At Solon there is generally a detachment of the Regiment, which is stationed at Umballa, practising Musketry, a Native bazaar, and a small tea plantation, with a picturesquely situated dwelling-house, formerly the

property of the late General Innes; but now belonging to the Rana of Baghat in whose territory the land lies.

After leaving Solon, the only point of special interests before reaching the next stage, is a shooting box, or mountain residence, of the Patiala Maharajah at Srinuggur, which remains in sight for a long time, as the road here winds and twists considerably.

The movement of the tonga is so rapid, the jolting so great, and in the dry season the dust so blinding, that the traveller has neither inclination nor ability to notice as much on this road, as he can on the old staging one, which is traversed in a more leisurely manner. It would be as well, if the traveller provided himself with a large veil or wire net goggles as a protection to his eyes from the great dust.

Kearee Ghaut.—The third stage is Kearee Ghat, 15 miles from Solon, 41 from Kalka and 17 from Simla. Here also is a large Government Dâk Bungalow, now but little frequented, except by newly-married couples, who, owing to the late hour at which their nuptials have been celebrated at Simla, cannot proceed further on their honey-moon journey to the plains. This dâk bungalow often affords shelter to the belated traveller from the plains, who owing to unexpected accident occurring *en route*, or owing to the tonga horses being tired out by reason too great demands having been made upon their strength, prefer staying here for the night to arriving at Simla after dark. Only 17 miles remain to complete the journey to Simla, but the traveller would ordinarily be wise to push on to his destination with as little delay as possible, as the final six miles of the journey into Simla are slow and difficult travelling, the road now being very steep and constantly blocked up by traffic.

Terminal Tonga Stations.—The terminal station for the tonga services is situated on the road below Burra Simla, and some little distance from the principal hotels. It would, therefore, save the traveller

considerable trouble and delay, if he could decide at Kalka, as to which of the several hotels he proposes putting up at in Simla, and telegraphing from thence instructions to the proprietor to have ponies, rick-shaws, or jampans and coolies, to await arrival at the terminus.

Kalka to Simla by the Old, or Staging Road.

Kussowlie.—This road has also three stages—the first is Kussowlie, distant only eight miles, but being a continuous ascent the whole way, in parts somewhat steep, progress is necessarily very slow, especially if a jampan be used. At Kussowlie, which is 7,000 feet above sea-level, the traveller will find a dâk bungalow as well as two hotels. It is a pleasant little Sanitarium. It is also a Military Station, having a depôt for invalid soldiers, with extensive barracks; a pretty little Church; excellent roads all round the hill; a brewery where the celebrated Kussowlie beer is manufactured. This Hill Station is frequented by many visitors, being so easy of access from the plains. A branch of the cart road turns off from Dhurrumpore and leads by circuitous route, but with an easy gradient on to the parade ground; this being a great convenience to the residents. An extensive view is obtained from Kussowlie of the neighbouring Military Stations of Dagshai and Subathu, of the Lawrence Asylum at Sanáwar, and in the far distance of Simla, the whole view being crowned by the lofty peaks of the Snowy Range. On the side overlooking the plains, the eye can stretch over a wide extent of country, with the Dhoon between the Himalayas and the Sewalicks lying, as though mapped out, at your very feet.

Kukkurhuttee.—Leaving Kussowlie, on the journey to Simla, the traveller dips at once into a deep valley, hardly more than 3,400 feet above sea-level, almost at the bottom of which is the second stage called Kukkurhuttee. The road is in parts very steep, though

tolerably level, while passing under Subathu. The barracks at Subathu are seen perched up on the heights above, as Kukkurhuttee is neared. There is a comfortable Rest-house at this place, a branch of Lowrie's Hotels at Kalka and Simla. The traveller will generally find it convenient to break his journey, and remain the night here; resuming his march as early as possible on the following morning, for the two remaining stages into Simla are both long and steep.

The Gumbar.—About two miles from Kukkurhuttee, the Gumbar is crossed by a pretty iron suspension bridge which spans the stream. The scenery in the deep gorge through which the river flows is wild and picturesque, the bed of the river being confined between high and precipitous cliffs. A mountain torrent flows into this stream just above the bridge and gushes under and through the spans thereof. The heat during the day throughout this valley is very great, and refreshing indeed is the breeze, which meets the traveller, as he begins the ascent up to Syree, the next stage. This road again is very steep, indeed the ascent is nearly as continuous as was the descent from Kussowlie to Kukkurhuttee. The whole of this route is tedious and toilsome owing to the many ascents and descents that have to be made. This route is seldom used, except by those to whom time is of no particular object, and who can afford to spare two or three days, in marching quietly stage by stage. Ladies, however, when accompanied by young children, frequently prefer this road, as the journey by tonga is to them, as it is often to invalids, fatiguing. More of the country perhaps is seen along this route, as the traveller plods leisurely along, now dipping into sequestered valleys, passing villages, generally most picturesquely situated, now rising to the top of some high peak, and from thence gaining a wide prospect of this region of mountains, than on the cart road, which is carried along the sides of the hills, sweeping up by gently rising gradients, and where the

view is, comparatively, more limited, and hence less picturesque.

Syree.—At Syree is a rest-house, but it is not usually well served, the traveller is however often glad to reach it, if only to rest his weary limbs and to bait his horse or give his jampanis or dhooly bearers an opportunity of doing so. The soil in the vicinity is very fertile, and is well watered. The hill men have taken advantage of this, and laid out gardens for the cultivation of vegetables and strawberries, finding this produce very profitable and more so than the usual cereal products of ordinary village agriculture in the hills. Simla is greatly dependent, during the summer months, on these gardens for its supplies of vegetables and the fruit above referred to.

Jattiah Dabee.—From Syree again the road is rough, steep and very trying nearly the whole distance to Simla. After passing Syree, the only spot worthy of mention is Jattiah Dabee, about half-way to Simla, where an annual fair for trading purposes takes place and where among other articles for sale or barter, young hill girls are brought to be purchased by aspiring bridegrooms and become the purchasers' wives by the custom of *rit*, which is a *mariage de convenance.* It prevails throughout the Simla hills. Should the *rit* wife leave her husband, as she not unfrequently does, either she, her parents or the second husband with whom she takes up has to refund to her last husband the money paid for her by way of *rit*. This custom is not legally recognized in British territory; but it is believed that it is so in the territories of the hill chiefs which environ British territory in this part of the Himalayas. More will be found regarding this custom elsewhere in these pages. There is a small Hindoo Temple here, inside a walled enclosure overshadowed by some fine trees, one of which is of great age, a Semul Cotton, which bears pods filled with a soft silky substance resembling cotton. This material is much used for stuffing pillows.

A short distance beyond is Bedaree Ghat, a little bazaar, where the coolies are sure to stop for a drink of water and a smoke, before buckling to for the ascent, which here becomes steep and continuous till village of Tawi at the entrance of Simla is reached.

Leaving this spot the road passes under Jutogh, a small Military Station, where a Mountain Battery and a Detachment of British Infantry, furnished by the Regiment at Subathu are posted. The traveller enters Simla at Boileaugunge. Should he be fortunate enough to arrive in the spring, he cannot fail to be astonished by the sight of hundreds of Rhododendron trees in full bloom; the woods appearing literally ablaze with their large and deep crimson blossoms.

The D.-U.-K. Railway Company has contracted with the Government to construct the Kalka-Simla Railway. The necessary capital has been raised and preliminary surveys carried out. The entrance into Simla will be *viâ* Summer Hill, the Chowra Maidan, to a terminus near the present tonga depôt.

TABLE OF DISTANCES.

KALKA TO SIMLA.

Table of Distances.		Modes of Conveyance.
(By the Cart Road.)	Miles.	
Kalka to Dhurrumpore	.. 14	Tonga.
Dhurrumpore to Solon	... 13	do.
Solon to Kearee Ghaut	... 14	do.
Kearee Ghaut to Simla	... 16	do.
(By the Old Road.)		
Kalka to Kussowlie	... 9	Jampan or horse Dâk.
Kussowlie to Kukkurhuttee	... 12	do.
Kukkurhuttee to Hurreepore	... 3	do.
Hurreepore to Syree	... 9	do.
Syree to Simla	... 10	do.

LOCAL.

FROM CHRIST CHURCH, SIMLA:		Miles.
To the extremity of	Chota Simla ...	... 2
,, ,,	Boileaugunge ...	... $2\frac{3}{4}$
,, ,,	Elysium Hill ...	... $1\frac{1}{4}$
	Round Jakho ...	... 5
	New Carriage drive	... 6

ROUTES.

	M.	F.	Yards.	REMARKS.
From Tonga Terminus to				
Bandstand	1	0	106	*Viâ* Cart road.
Circuit round Jakho ...	4	7	218	
Do. do. Bentinck Hill ...	2	3	104	
Do. do. Chadwick Hill ...	1	6	175	
Do. do. Prospect Hill ...	1	6	58	
Entrance of Boileaugunge Bazaar to Lakar Bazaar ...	3	1	18	Centre.
Do. do. do. Chota Simla Bazaar	3	6	122	Police Station.
Do. do. do. Sanjaoli Bazaar	4	2	103	Centre.
Do. do. do. Kasumpti ...	4	5	111	Centre.
From Combermere Bridge to				
Woodville	0	7	85	
Chota Simla Bazaar Police Station	1	2	31	
Baoli on road round Jakho ...	2	2	180	*Viâ* Chota Simla.
Convent Gate	2	4	114	
Church	0	1	150	
Lakar Bazaar	0	4	47	
Mayo Insitute	1	4	28	
Kasumpti Bazaar	2	1	20	
Strawberry Hill	1	4	95	
Bishop Cotton School ...	1	7	208	*Viâ* Mayday Hill.
Telegraph Office	0	4	95	,, Church.
Do. do.	0	4	96	,, Bazaar.
From Church to				
Stirling Castle	0	7	119	
Elysium House	1	3	45	

	M.	F.	Yards.	REMARKS.
From Church to				
Round Elysium House and Stirling Castle	3	3	61	On road to Mahasu.
Sanjaoli Bazaar	1	7	61	
Tunnel	2	2	5	
Mayo Orphanage	1	2	98	
Cemetery	1	2	149	
Lakar Bazaar	0	2	117	
Chota Simla Bazaar... ...	1	3	181	
Kasumpti Bazaar	2	2	170	
Boileaugunge Police Station ...	2	4	40	

HISTORICAL.

Some time in the year 1822, an English traveller, followed by a few attendants, slowly wended his way through the dense forests, and thickly growing underwood of the Himalayas. He had left far behind him, on the lower ranges, the mangoe with its dark green leaf, the wide spreading peepul, the cactus, the palm and all other tropical vegetation—onwards he strained, now toiling up a steep acclivity, then descending by a precipitous track into a narrow valley (through which the mountain stream dashed noisily along its rocky bed), once more to ascend some giddy height. Here his eyes rested on the giant rhododendron, covered with clusters of rich crimson blossoms. A little further on, pines, cedars and firs of various kinds, towering with savage beauty to the sky, met his view. Above all he now caught sight of the glistening pinnacles of the snowy range, a prospect unsurpassed in the world for grandeur, till at length, wearied out with his journey, he threw himself down on the green sward, under the shade of the dark cedars, and gave himself up to the exquisite pleasure of inhaling the cool breeze, fragrant with the perfume of the wild thyme and of the resinous exudations from the pines and firs, which played so refreshingly round him,

Near this spot stood a small village upwards of 7,000 feet above the level of the sea—this village was Simla, and this traveller was Kennedy: the man who first brought the place to the notice of the public.

Captain Gerard, a former traveller, some years before, in 1817 in his journal had casually mentioned Simla, or Semla, as the hill people then called it; but he spoke of it as "a mere halting ground—a name given to a few miserable cultivator's huts"—and it was left to Captain Kennedy, the officer, who then commanded at Subathu, and who was the Political Agent in these hills for many years, to draw the attention of Government to this beautiful spot—to erect the first European habitation there, and thus to lay the foundation of the present Mountain City. There is a legend, however, that, after the close of the Campaign of 1815, Lieutenant Ross, the Governor-General's Agent for the Hill States, predecessor to Captain Kennedy, while making a tour through the hills, pitched a tent in the part now known as Chota Simla, thatching it to keep out the rain. He lived there during the monsoon, and the officers belonging to the Nusseeree Battalion, then stationed at Subathu, were in the habit of roaming over these hills in search of game, picturesque scenery, and to wile away the dull hours of military life in a time of peace. This, however, is only traditionary and not much to be relied on. The early history of Simla is, however, officially thus presented in the Settlement Report of the Simla District, the narrative being based on the record of Sir Herbert Edwardes, made in the year 1850:

"The lands forming the *perganna* and present station of Simla belonged conjointly to the Maharajah of Patiala and the Rana (now the Rajah) of Keonthal. As early as 1824, European gentlemen, chiefly invalids from the plains, had, with the permission of these chiefs, established themselves in this locality, building houses on lands granted them rent free and with no other

stipulation than that they should refrain from the slaughter of kine and from the felling of trees, unless with the previous permission of the proprietors of the land." It may be noted *en passant*, that the former condition is so far abrogated, that kine are permitted to be slaughtered in the Municipal Slaughter House at Simla, though not elsewhere. The prohibition of tree cutting is, however, still in force; no trees can be cut within Municipal limits, without the sanction of the Municipality under pain of a fine, which may extend to Rs. 50. This is a very necessary provision, for not only is promiscuous and indiscriminate tree felling conducive to the occurrence of landslips, but it also is said to affect the rainfall. Anyhow the provision is a wise one, for did it not exist, the whole station would soon be denuded of verdure, and its picturesque appearance be destroyed.

"The Station becoming favourably known as a *sanitarium*, in 1830 the Government directed that negotiations should be entered into with the Chiefs of Patiala and Keonthal, for as much land as was deemed sufficient to form a station. Accordingly Major Kennedy—the *quondam* owner of the estate, now comprising Kennedy House, Kennedy Lodge and Kennedy Cottage — the then Political Agent, negotiated with the Rajah of Keonthal for his portion of the Simla Hill, namely, the villages Pandhoro, Dumhee, Sarran, Faguli, Dalna, Hyar, Bannawino, Pagog, Dirwin, Khimley, Khullian, Kimney and Khalliyar, and yielding an estimated annual revenue of Rs. 937, making over to the Rajah the pargana of Rajeen, yielding annually Rs. 1,289, which had been retained by the British on the first conquest of these hills, as its situation was considered to afford a good military position.

"A portion of the retained pargana of Bharauli, consisting of the following villages, was at the same time made over to the Maharajah of Patiala in exchange for the portion of Simla, which was included in his territory,

and which consisted of the villages noted below, namely, Daventi, Dharair, Kabloun, Kainthu, Phimgony, Chewng, and Aindri, yielding an annual revenue of Rs. 245." It will thus be apparent, that the Chiefs in question made a very good bargain, considering the time at which it was struck, by the exchange that was effected, as above described. It is, however, stated in the Gazetteer of the Simla District that "a tract of land including part of the Simla Hill was retained at the close of the Ghurka War of 1815-16. Upon this the first British residence, a mere cottage of wood and thatch, was built in 1819 by Lieutenant Ross, Assistant Political Agent in the Hill States." This official account comprises the legend above referred to. Three years later, in 1822, the first permanent house was erected. This was the work of Lieutenant Kennedy, the successor in office to Lieutenant Ross. His example was followed by officers from Umballa and the neighbouring Stations, and by 1826 the new settlement had acquired a name; so much so that Lord Amherst, then Governor-General, after completing the progress through the North-West, with which he celebrated the triumphant ending of the Bhurtpore campaign, proceeded for the summer months to Simla. This was the foundation of Simla's greatness. Year after year, occasionally at first, but before long with perfect regularity, the seat of Government was for a few months transferred from Calcutta to the soft climate and magnificent scenery of the Himalayas, until at last Simla fairly took its place as the summer capital of India. The Sanitarium rose rapidly in favour with the European population of Northern India. Year after year the seat of Government was transferred for a few weeks in every summer from the heat of Calcutta to the cool climate of the Himalayas. Successive Governors-General resorted with increasing regularity to Simla during the hot weather. Attached to the recently annexed province of the Punjab, it formed

an advantageous spot for receiving the great chiefs of Northern and Western India, numbers of whom annually come to Simla to pay their respects to the British suzerain. It also presented greater conveniences for a starting point for the Governor-General's cold weather tour than Calcutta, which is situated in the extreme south-east corner of Bengal. At first only a small staff of officials accompanied the Governor-General to Simla; but since the administration of Lord Lawrence (1864) Simla has practically been the summer capital of the Government of India, with its secretaries and head-quarter establishments, unless during the exceptional season of famine on the plains as in 1874. Under these circumstances the station grew with extraordinary rapidity. Auckland House, at present a flourishing school, was the Governor-General's residence during the *regimé* of Lord Auckland. Lord Wm. Bentinck, when Governor-General, usually stayed at Bentinck Castle, which formerly stood on the site of the present Grand Hotel. From 30 houses in 1830 it increased to upwards of 100 in 1841; 290 in 1866; and 1,141 in 1881." According to the Municipal registers, there are at present about 1,350 houses in Simla. This figure is yearly increasing and will continue to do so.

Entrance to Simla.—The old road, which leads into Simla through the Boileaugunge Division, in which there is a Bazaar, a Police Station, a Post Office and a Serai for travellers, enters Simla about 2¾ miles from Christ Church About half a mile from the entrance is situated the Viceregal Lodge, the residence of the Viceroy.

Description.—The ridge or neck, which connects the hills on the Boileaugunge side of Simla, with the central portion, or Burra Simla, is called Chowra Maidan. To the left of this ridge, which here forms the watershed north and south in the valley, is a glen called Annandale, where there is a public garden, race course, cricket and polo ground, and where are held the

Gymkhana sports. To the right stretch out a series of spurs with deep gorges between, each with a small stream, all leading into the Giri. Here are the two Breweries of Simla,—that of Messrs. Meakin & Co., and of Messrs. Dyer & Co., both well situated, as regards a supply of water and cool shade.

On a wide and long, well wooded spur, the furthest which stretches out from Jakho to the east, are the extensive buildings of Bishop Cotton boys' school.

Simla in its very infancy was suspected to be an unhealthy place in the rains! We read that Lord Amherst in 1827 left on the approach of the monsoon under the impression that the dense vegetation, which springs up in the monsoon months with extraordinary suddenness and rapidity, would render the spot unhealthy. Modern sanitation has improved matters considerably, and all rank vegetation is now from time to time, as it springs up, cut down and removed, and this tends to prevent the accumulation of unhealthy matter and its emanations. Cholera, in this year for the second time, since these hills became known to the English, spread desolation throughout this region. This dire epidemic appeared to follow the line of march taken by Lord Amherst and reached as high as Sabathu. The medical officer, and two civilians attached to the Governor-General's Staff, died at Pinjore, causing much consternation among the small party. The first known visitation of cholera was in 1817 (subsequently 1827-31, 1841-43, 1853-55, 1865-67, and 1875-79), when the greater part of India was devastated by this terrible disease. The provision of an excellent, though not always unlimited, supply of filtered water has done much to improve the health of this Sanitarium. No case of cholera has been known in the station for several years, and though it has broken out in epidemic form in some of the villages in the neighbourhood, has mercifully not spread to within Mûnicipal limits. The death-rate during the past year was only 19·02 per *mille* calculated

on the census of 1891. But if based on the actual population of the present day is very much smaller. Most diseases which have occurred of recent years have been importations.

The early impression that Simla was not healthy was happily removed. However, in the following year by the residence, till October, of Lord Combermere, his Staff, and the whole establishment of Army Head-Quarters.

Thus Simla was rendered fashionable, and rose into importance as a sanitarium, all who visited it carrying away with them rosy complexions and robust health, afforded to the inhabitants of Calcutta the best possible proof of the healthiness of the situation. Many sketches of the magnificent scenery, which surrounds Simla, besides the many lovely views in the station itself, were taken and exhibited to admiring friends, serving thus to make the place still better known, and year after year its fame became more and more established, till it became frequently the resort of the idle, the invalid, the artist, the sportsman, and in fact of all those whose duties and finances enabled them to leave the arid plains behind them, if even but for a few weeks.

Captain Mundy, A.-D.-C. to Lord Combermere, writes of the period of His Excellency's visit "that Sabathu is the most northern European settlement in India, except Koteghur, which latter place is situated some sixty miles in the interior of the mountains, and is a small military post on the banks of the Sutlej, retained by Sir David Ochterlony as a British possession, in order to keep the Gurkhas from encroaching on the right bank of the river." A further discription of Koteghur and its history will be given later on.

Captain Gerard commanded for some years two companies of the Nusseeree Battalion, which from 1815 garrisoned the little military outpost of Kotegurh. To him and to his two brothers are the public indebted for surveys, measurements, and much scientific knowledge of these hills.

To Captain Mundy are we also indebted for an account of some incidents, which occurred during the residence of Lord Combermere in Simla. Among others he mentions the construction of the bridge, which still bears the name of "Combermere"—and of the road, which encircles Jakho. Writing of the bridge Captain Mundy says:—"During the progress of this miniature *Simplon*, which occupied the hours before breakfast, and those of the afternoon, the attendant A. D. C. amused himself by watching the formation of the mines for blasting the rocks, the cutting down of trees, making grotesque rustic arbours, or whistling after the huge blocks of stone, which moved by levers off the road, toppled, bounded, and crashed through the wooded declivity into the valley below." This slight description gives a glimpse of the kind of life led by the first visitors to Simla, and shews it to have been rather more rural than that of the present day. Lord Combermere, before returning to the plains, penetrated into the interior of the hills, as far as the Borenda pass across the Snowy Range, the summit of which is 15,095 feet above sea level.

That talented French traveller, M. Victor Jacquemont, in describing Simla in the year 1830, wrote thus:—"This place is the resort of the rich, the idle and the invalid. The officer charged with the political service of this extremity of the empire, which was acquired only fifteen years ago, bethought himself, nine years since, of leaving his palace in the plains during the heats of a terrible summer, and encamping under the shade of the cedars. A few friends came to visit him there. The situation and climate appeared admirable. Some hundreds of mountaineers were summoned, who felled the trees around, squared them rudely, and, assisted by workmen from the plains, in a month constructed a spacious house. Each of the guests wished to have one also; there are upwards of sixty scattered over the peaks of the

mountains or their declivities: thus a considerable village has arisen as it were by enchantment."

Captain Kennedy, the officer to whom Jacquemont alludes, while the building of his house was in progress, took possession of an old Hindoo temple, which he converted into an habitation. Other visitors, as they came up, pitched tents and sheltered themselves the best way they could, till they were able to erect dwellings, choosing for themselves a site wherever they fancied; thus the station grew, but as the fancy of each individual was various, no regularity was maintained in the arrangement of the sanitarium.

In 1829 Lord William Bentinck, the Governor-General succeeding Lord Amherst, sent instructions to have a house built at Simla for him. Accordingly the site then occupied by the dâk Bungalow, on the top of one of the hills, being considered the most suitable, was chosen, the little rest-house removed, and in its place a fine house erected called "Bentinck Castle," which was for many years known as the Simla Bank. Bentinck Castle has been the property of several noted individuals. After the departure of Lord W. Bentinck it was purchased, and resided in, by Sir Henry Fane; from him it was bought by General Lumley then Adjutant-General of the Army—and was the residence of Lord and Lady Gough during the six seasons they lived in Simla. After which it was purchased by Sir Henry Lawrence. It again changed hands and became the property of the Simla Bank. In 1888, on the Simla Bank going into liquidation, the premises were purchased for the purpose of starting a second Club. Hardly had the sale been effected and alterations begun to convert the rooms in the building into chambers suitable for the requirements of a Club, when the house caught fire, and the whole was burnt to the ground. Fortunately for the new owners an Insurance had been effected at the time of purchase. With the amount paid by the Insurance Company an entirely

new building, of a character almost palatial, with numerous quarters for resident members, has been erected on the site of the original house. The New Club having failed to compete with its more formidable service rival, the United Service Club, was wound up in 1891. The spacious handsome and well-fitted out premises were purchased by Chevalier Peliti, "the Busza.d of India," in 1892, and has ever since been one of the best managed and found hotels in India.

In that year, 1829, owing to the increasing importance of Simla, the appointment of Political Assistant held by Captain Kennedy of Sabathu, was changed to the designation of Principal Assistant to the Resident of Delhi; and instead of residing in Subathu, the Principal Assistant was permitted to live in Simla. This designation was subsequently changed, and the officer holding this appointment was styled Deputy Commissioner of Simla, and Superintendent of Hill States, which title obtains to the present day. This officer is under the Commissioner of the Delhi Division, who resides at Delhi, and is subject to the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab.

Major-General Sir John Adams, Commanding the Sirhind Division, made Simla his Head-Quarters for two or three years at this period. He was greatly noted for his liberality and open hospitality to the people of, and the visitors to the Sanitarium. This brave old soldier died at Subathu in 1837.

Among the most noted of the early residents in Simla and its vicinity, were the well known and celebrated brothers Gerard. The eldest, Alexander, served under Lambton and Everest in the great Trigonometrical Survey, and was a man of great scientific attainments. His travels in these mountains have been published since his demise by Sir W. Lloyd. The second, James, was Surgeon of the Nusseeree Battalion. He was the first European, who penetrated into the wild tract beyond Kotegurh, called Kunawur, and

the valley of the Spiti, as early as 1817. He was a wonderful pedestrian, a most enthusiatic and adventurous explorer of these hills. His travels were first published in the Calcutta journal, and he was the companion of Sir Alexander Burnes in his celebrated journey to Bokhara. The third, Patrick Gerard, was noted as an unwearying and accurate Meteorologist. For many years he kept a register of the weather at Simla, Sabathu and Kotegurh—which was published in England. He died in 1847 and lies buried in Simla, so long the field of his labours.

For several years during this period, the history of the Sanitarium is but the history of individuals, its inhabitants, who one and all speak and write of the place as one of the most enchanting spots in the world—the ground carpeted with flowers, the hills shaded by noble trees, and every slope and nook surrounded on all sides with flowering and sweet scented thickets of shrubs, dog roses, woodbine, and many other climbing plants.

Lord Dalhousie, father of the late Governor-General of the same name, succeeding Lord Combermere as Commander-in-Chief, resided in Simla during the season of 1832, and in the same year Lord William Bentinck, the Governor-General, also came up. So this year was marked as the first in which the two highest authorities in India, both Civil and Military, were here together. Both Lord and Lady Bentinck did much for the benefit of the Station, and out of their private purse, built a hospital and a "Serai," for the natives. Their open-handedness and unbounded charity to the poor were so noted, that they were greatly beloved by all high and low.

Sir Alexander Burnes, then only a Lieutenant, first came to Simla in 1832, to render to the Governor-General an account of his Mission to the Court of Runjeet Sing, where he had been sent with presents by William IV and a letter from Lord Ellenborough, then President of the Board of Control. He paid the

Sanitarium a second visit in 1837, after he had withdrawn from Cabul, and had accompanied Sir W. MacNaughten to the celebrated conference with Runjeet Sing's Councillors at Adeenanuggur, held to arrange the preliminaries of a tripartite treaty for re-seating Shah Sujah on the throne of Cabul. Lord W. Bentinck in 1832 received in Simla a complimentary mission from Runjeet Sing, composed of nearly the same courtiers who had been deputed to wait on Lord Amherst in 1827, among whom was the celebrated Faqueer Azeez-oo-deen. It was then, that the interwiew, which took place at Rùpur, with "the one-eyed" Sikh Raja in October of the same year, was arranged. The meeting was described by a florid journalist of the day, as a second "field of the cloth of gold." During the last year of Lord W. Bentinck's stay in Simla, Sir Edward Barnes, the Commander-in-Chief succeeding Lord Dalhousie, resided here for two years, 1833-34, with Lady Barnes, in the house, which stills bears his name, namely "Barnes' Court." Sir Edward Barnes was well known as the Adjutant General of the Duke of Wellington, at Waterloo. "Barnes Court" is now owned by the Punjab Government and is the official residence of the Lieutenant-Governors of that Province, and used as such.

The two following years 1835-36, Simla was not visited by either the Governor-General or Commander-in-Chief, but the Bishop of Calcutta paid it his first visit in the latter year, when he consecrated the building, which had been set apart and used for some time past, for the performance of divine service. This building, was centrically situated, and was a private dwelling, and had been altered and added to, with a square tower at one end, and so made to wear the conventional aspect of a sacred edifice. More about this edifice will be found elsewhere.

Captain Kennedy, who held the appointment of Political Agent for fifteen years, retired in 1835, and was

succeeded by Colonel Tapp; both he and his predecessor, commanded the Nusseeree Battalion stationed at Subathu, in addition to holding the Political Agency. Colonel Tapp, who also for many years held this appointment, occupied a large house in Chota Simla, called Strawberry Hill, and subsequently lived in Barnes' Court.

During the years of 1836-37, the terrible famine, which devastated nearly the whole of India, also extended to these hills, though not to the same serious extent as in the plains—still, hundreds died of starvation. All domestic ties seemed loosened, parents forgot the natural love they bore for their children and sold them for a mere pittance, to gain perhaps but one meal, and then to die. Many of these starvelings were bought by the Missionaries, who brought them up as Christians in their schools.

Sir Henry Fane, successor to Sir Edward Barnes as Commander-in-Chief, resided in Simla in 1837. He constructed a capital road round the hill, known as "Prospect Point," paying for it from his private purse. Road-making appears to have been a hobby of Sir H. Fane's. He made one of the finest roads in Ceylon and was known to have declared that, had he remained in Simla, he would soon have constructed a carriage road to Simla itself. This feat was left for Sir Charles Napier to undertake, for under his auspices as above stated the great alpine road, which is now designated the "Cart road" was commenced.

Lord Auckland, the Governor-General, came to Simla during the last year of Sir Henry Fane's residence in this Sanitarium. It had now become an established custom for the Commander-in-Chief and Headquarters' Staff to make Simla their summer residence. The Governors-General, finding the climate of the hills as beneficial to health as that of Calcutta was detrimental to it, also began to adopt the same custom, so that scarcely a season passed without seeing both dignitaries

passing the hot months among the cool breezes of the mountains.

Lord Auckland was accompanied by his two sisters, the Hon'ble Misses Eden, who contributed greatly to the gaiety and sociability of the Station. Old residents of Simla always spoke of the two years of the Misses Eden's visit to Simla as particularly noted for the good feeling which then existed among them. His Excellency purchased a house situated on the hill to the North of the Station, which was then named "Elysium Hill," as a delicate compliment to the Hon'ble Misses Eden. The house was called "Auckland House" and designated for many subsequent years as "Government House." It was the scene of many a brilliant ball and amusing theatricals.

On the 7th May 1838, another Embassy from Runjeet Sing arrived in Simla. The Mission was ostensibly headed by a young Rajah, a relation of the great Maharaja, as Ambassador; but the actual "chargé d'affairs" was again the famous Faqir Aziz-ud-din, the same suave courtier, who headed the former Embassy in the time of Lord W. Bentinck. To Aziz-ud-din was entrusted the management of the negotiations that he was commissioned to carry out, and for which the Embassy was deputed, namely, to arrange the preliminaries of the interview, which afterwards took place at Ferozepore, between Lord Auckland and the Lion of the Punjab, on the 27th November of the same year. The ceremony of receiving the Mission took place at Government House, when, to do honour to the Ambassador, a company of the Nusseeree Battalion was drawn up on one side of the entrance as a guard-of-honor. The visit ended by Lord Auckland appointing a time for meeting Runjeet Sing at Ferozepore.

At this interview, Sir Henry Fane presented, on the part of the British Government, to the Maharajah, among other valuable articles, two brass nine-pounder howitzers,

having engraved on them one of Runjeet Sing's Orders: "The Star of the Punjab." These guns were used against the British in the first Sikh campaign, at the battle of Moodkee, and were identified as the same on their arrival at Calcutta, together with the rest of the captured ordnance belonging to the Sikhs—a fact which should have, but has not, deterred successive Governments from continuing to give such dangerous presents to those who may become enemies and have the power to turn the very gifts of Britain into instruments of destruction of her armies.

The celebrated Tripartite Treaty of June 1838, between the British Government, that of the Punjab, and Shah Sujah of Cabul, was planned and prepared in Simla. This Treaty caused the invasion of Afghanistan in 1839, and all our subsequent triumphs as well as sad disasters, in that country. It was at Simla also, on the first of October of the same year, that the Proclamation of Lord Auckland was issued declaring the restoration of Shah Sujah.

In 1831 there were only sixty houses in the Station; but by 1838 double that number had been erected. The population of the Sanitarium was becoming migratory, and in this respect Simla began to resemble each year more and more the fashionable watering-places in England, and on the Continent, in having a regular "Season" for the influx of visitors.

In this year Mr. Barrett, the first merchant who established himself in Simla, instituted a Library, Reading and Billiard Rooms.

On the 9th May 1838, the Freemasons held their first meeting in Simla and formed a Masonic Lodge, which was named the "Himalayan Brotherhood," No. 459 E.C.

The Lodge was established originally under the auspices of two Past Masters, Worshipful Brothers G. L. Hoff and H. G. Goulard, the latter of whom worked the Lodge for the first year of its existence. At the annual

election, Mr. R. B. Macdonald, a partner in the then leading firm of the place, Messrs. Barrett & Co., was elected Master for the following year 1839. This Lodge still exists. It is located now in the Town Hall, and numbers over 100 members.

A very curious incident took place during a Masonic procession at Simla, the first that ever occurred in the Himalayas, which is worth relating. This procession, led by one or two members of the Lodge, with the Governor-General's Band playing in front, while passing through the Bazaar seemed to attract especially the notice of some Afghan merchants, who were in the crowd, and to the surprise of some of the fraternity, it is said, these Afghans gave the true Masonic sign. On the circumstance being subsequently mentioned to Sir Alexander Burnes, who visited the Lodge two or three times during his stay in Simla, after war had been declared with Cabul, that gentleman stated he had frequently met Afghans during his travels, who were acquainted with the mysteries of Masonry, as far as the first and second degrees are concerned, some expressing themselves as being most anxious to be raised to the third degree, but that they had not had the opportunity. In addition to the Lodge Himalayan Brotherhood, a Royal Arch Chapter "Dalhousie" holds its meetings in the Masonic Halls as also do the Knights Templar and Knights of Malta belonging to the Himalayan Preceptory. The Sovereign Princes of the Order of Rose Croix of Heredom or the 18° also hold the meetings of Chapter "Himalaya" in the Masonic Hall. All these branches of Freemasonry are flourishing institutions full of vitality, and second to none in India in their working.

An alms-house for poor natives, and a school for the children of the hill people, were established in this year through the liberality of the Political Agent and the charitable visitors to the station. A Fancy Fair was held two years in succession in the little valley called Annandale, under the patronage of Lord Auck-

land and his sisters, the proceeds of which went to swell the fund provided by the Political Agent. The former institution has fallen into abeyance; the latter formed the nucleus of the existing Municipal Board School.

In 1839, for the first time, the Hill Chiefs of the Cis-Sutlej States were received by the Governor-General Lord Auckland, who held a Durbar at Simla.

Neither the Governor-General nor the Commander-in-Chief visited Simla in 1840, but the Bishop of Calcutta (Daniel Wilson) paid it his second visit, and resided in Government House.

The Political Agent, Colonel Tapp, resigned office in 1841, and was succeeded by the Hon'ble Mr. Erskine; the command of the Nusseeree Battalion devolved on Colonel Penny and so, for the first time, the two appointments were separated, and no longer held, as hitherto, by one individual. During the period that Colonel Tapp held office, great improvements were made in the roads—nearly thirty miles of highway were railed in. The indiscriminate felling of trees within the boundaries of Simla began then to be prohibited, fines being inflicted upon all infractors of this rule.

Lord Ellenborough, successor to Lord Auckland, and Sir Jasper Nicholls, the Commander-in-Chief, succeeding Sir Henry Fane; both resided in Simla in 1842. In this year was issued from Simla the Proclamation intimating the abandonment of Afghanistan, Lord Ellenborough by doing so entirely repudiating the policy of Lord Auckland.

Jutogh, a few miles from the entrance to Simla on the Boileaugunge side, was, at this time, made a Military Station, and the Nusseeree Battalion from Subathu removed to it in 1843.

The North-West Bank of India at Meerut, while Major Angelo was the Secretary, established a branch at Simla in 1843, under the management of Dr. Laughton. Two years afterwards this was closed under an arrangement with the proprietors of the newly incorporated Simla

Bank. This institution was proposed and started in 1845 by the indefatigable and enterprising Mr. Barrett in a freak after a dinner party; Captain Hay, the Governor-General's Agent for the Protected Hill States, was the first Secretary. A branch was opened in Umballa in 1846 and another in London, about the same time under Dr. Stephens, who nearly swamped the Bank by granting irrecoverable loans. This led to the closure of the London office. The Simla Bank Corporation, Limited, itself has since been wound up.

Lady Sale, Lady MacNaughten, and some others of the prisoners in Cabul, after their release, made this Sanitarium their residence, attracting much notice owing to the trials they had undergone. Sir Hugh Gough, successor to Sir Jasper Nicholls, made Simla his Head-quarters during 1844. His Excellency and Lady Gough did much towards rendering Simla attractive by their warm-hearted hospitality.

A great fire broke out in the Main Bazaar destroying much property during this year, 1844, so full of incidents interesting in the annals of the Sanitarium.

Prince Waldemar with his suite, the Counts Grubben and Oriolo, visited Simla in 1845. His Royal Highness entertained the community at a fête-champêtre in the valley of Annandale, a circumstance which was often alluded to after the giver had "gone to that distant bourn whence no traveller returns." He was killed during the battle of Ferozeshah, of which he was a spectator.

Before the close of the season of 1845, Sir Hugh Gough and all officers on leave were obliged to quit Simla hastily, to join the army, then assembling on the banks of the Sutlej for the struggle, which resulted eventually in adding the Punjab to the British Possessions.

During the following year, a stranger would have taken Simla to be a depôt for the maimed and wounded of the army, as so many of those who had suffered

came up to endeavour to recruit their health. Many of the visitors went about on crutches, or with an arm bandaged, and many a brave soldier was to be seen, who had been scarred for life, but of which scars he was naturally proud. Sir Henry Hardinge, the one-armed Governor-General, and Sir Hugh Gough were the lions of the day. Simla, it is believed, was so full this season, that not a house remained unoccupied.

In 1847, Mr. Edwardes was appointed Political Agent, in the room of the Hon'ble Mr. Erskine, who took up the appointment of Resident at Katmandoo.

Mr. Edwardes, who subsequently became Sir Herbert Edwardes and was offered the Lieutenant-Governorship of the Punjab ere his political career closed, established here a "Gunge" or open market for the sale of grain, and other food supplies. The memory of this truly Christian officer will probably long be cherished, since he identified himself with every good work in the station. He used his utmost endeavours to repress gambling, and it is even reported of him that he was of so charitable a disposition as to spend the larger portion, if not actually his entire monthly salary, for the good of the poor, and for the benefit of several local charities, which have now fallen into abeyance.

The Public Gardens at Annandale were this year commenced under the guidance of the well-known Botanist and Horticulturist, Dr. Jameson, Superintendent of the Botanical Gardens in Saharanpur. A race-course was made round the garden and a cricket-ground was laid down. Annandale is a very favourite spot for picnics and all public out-door sports, being the only tolerably level place in Simla. It would be even a greater favourite as a resort for the public, if it were not for the steep descent to it and the toilsome ascent, which has again to be faced on the return journey. Another road, however, has been constructed, made by the 23rd Pioneers in 1877, which though longer, is of an easier gradient than the old, now almost disused

steep descent. It has the special merit of being very cool and shady, and, moreover, passes through some very beautiful forest.

The first printing press was established in 1848, called the "Albion Press," and from it was issued the *Mountain Monitor*, edited by Dr. W. L. McGregor. The first number of this journal saw light on the 15th May, and after struggling with many difficulties, through the season, came to an untimely end on the 2nd October of the same year. A native paper styled the *Simla Akbar*, was also printed at a small lithograph press, but that also ceased to exist at the close of the same year.

An advertising sheet came out entitled *The Simla Intelligencer*, in 1850, lasting two years—and another was issued in 1851, called the *Simla Advertiser*, which continued to be published for many years.

Since then, there have been several publications started of more or less literary merit, each struggling through their respective periods of existence of varying length, subject to thè many vicissitudes incidental to ephemeral publications, some collapsing totally. The *Simla News*, a weekly, is now Simla's only journal.

The *Pioneer*, during the Simla season, publishes a daily sheet containing the latest Reuter's telegrams, and the latest news of importance. There also are several Advertisers published. Journalistic literature is rather scarce, however, at the Summer Capital, and such enterprise is perhaps too risky to attract any large capitalist.

Three merchants from Yarkund, in 1847, found their way across the Snowy Range to Simla, exciting much notice by the strangeness of their appearance and the novelty of the articles, the produce of their country, which they brought for sale, while they, in their turn, were greatly astonished at the sight of a British settlement, and what, to them, appeared boundless wealth contained in the European shops. A large party

of these people passed through Simla in 1855, on a pilgrimage to Mecca, *viâ* Bombay.

The Lawrence Asylum for the orphan children of our soldiers was founded in the year 1854, by Sir Henry Lawrence. This noble Institution stands on the hill called Sánawur, opposite to Kussowlie, and not far distant from it.* The Asylum is kept up by yearly donations which, besides those given by the philanthropic founder himself, have in some instances been extremely munificent. Goolab Sing, the late Maharaja of Cashmere, gave the large sum of Rs. 100,000, which contribution hastened on the completion of the buildings. Lord Hardinge, when visiting the Institution, ordered that in all official correspondence it should be designated "The Lawrence Asylum," in honour of the philanthropic founder. On the 17th September 1851, the foundation-stone of the Chapel was laid by Lady Gomm, in the presence of Sir William Gomm, then Commander-in-Chief. The boys are dressed in the uniform of the Artillery in compliment to the founder. A monument and tablet are erected in the Chapel of the School to the memory of Sir Henry Lawrence, who was killed during the Mutiny at Lucknow. The progress and prosperity of this Institution has steadily increased year by year, and in 1876, there were 432 children on the muster roll. In 1898, 249 boys and 218 girls; total, 467 children.

An observatory was established in 1840, on one of the high peaks, near the entrance to Simla, which has since been called "Observatory Hill," under Colonel Boileau of the Engineers, for various Meteorological observations, but was closed in 1850. This hill is the site of the new palace or Viceregal Lodge, which now has been erected as a summer residence for the Viceroys of India. A splendid level plateau has been made by

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* The plot of land occupied by the Institution formerly belonged to the lapsed State of Baghat.

levelling the cone-like summit of the hill, giving ample space for the large building.

In 1849, there were many visitors of note in Simla: first, Lord Dalhousie, the Governor-General; Sir Hugh Gough, the Commander-in-Chief, just returned from the second Sikh Campaign; Lady Gough; The Lieutenant-Governor of the North-West Provinces; Sir Charles Napier, the Conqueror of Scinde, and successor as Commander-in-Chief to Sir Hugh Gough; Lord Dalhousie, the former Commander-in-Chief, with Lady Dalhousie, as visitors; and the Earl of Gifford, eldest son of the Marquis of Tweeddale, accompanied by his brother Lord W. Hay. The latter was appointed Assistant Commissioner of Simla, and held this office till the departure of Major Edwardes, 1852, when he succeeded as Deputy Commissioner and Superintendent of the Cis-Sutlej States, which office he retained till he took leave for England in 1862.

In June 1850, "The Great Hindostan and Thibet Road" was commenced. Major Kennedy, Secretary to Sir Charles Napier, then Commander-in Chief, planned the great work, and Lieutenant Briggs ably executed the Grand Trunk road from Kalka to Simla (and beyond). He had, besides the usual professional staff, more than one amateur engineer to aid him. These were to be seen leveling and surveying along the proposed line, for road-making at this time became a perfect mania. Lord Dalhousie entertained grand views as to the future prospect of securing for the British a more intimate connection, in the matter of traffic, with the countries lying to the north of our Indian Possessions, beyond the barrier of the Snowy Range by means of the proposed road, than had hitherto been practicable, for it was intended that this road should extend beyond Simla, across the many ranges which intervene, and over the passes of the snows to the borders of Tartary and Thibet. The broad road and with a gradual, and except in a few places, easy gradient of three feet in every hundred, has

long been completed as far as Simla. Beyond it is constructed on the same principle to a short distance past Pangi, though the gradient has necessarily been steeper, and the road narrower, and is marked out for many miles further on. Gradually the road has been widened as far as Mushobra, parapet walls have been erected as a protection to traffic, so that a small carriage with a pair of ponies can be driven to the Mushobra Bazar.

The Marquis of Dalhousie had another object in view besides the far-sighted one above referred to, and this, while shewing him to be a true Statesman, also proved him to be a humane and philanthropic Governor, as will be seen by the following extract from a Minute to the Court of Directors, dated 1856, by which he hoped to entirely abrogate the system of Begaree, or forced labour, but which, notwithstanding His Excellency's efforts to suppress, still continues, though in a form giving less annoyance and causing less oppression than formerly.

The history of this new road is thus explained :—

"The work had its origin in the desire entertained by the Government to abolish and to remove all pretext for defending Begaree (or the system of employing the forced labour in the hill). So far as the Government was concerned, that system had the sanction of treaties, for every Chief was bound, whenever he should be called upon, to find, upon his own part, bands of labourers for the temporary service of the State.

"The Government has always amply remunerated the coolies, who were so employed for the time they served. But the money was usually, to a great extent, taken from them by their own Chiefs on their return to their homes. They were forced to travel great distances, and in many ways they suffered considerably in person and pocket.

"The abuse of the system by private individuals was believed to be great, though every endeavour upon the part of the Government was steadily made to check it.

"Yet the evil of the system itself was unavoidable by any means. So long as the hill roads, even to the English Settlements and Military stations, continued to be little better than mountain paths, no other labour than that of men could transport whatever had to be carried, and no substitute for Begaree could be found. The first step, therefore, and the only step, necessary for the abolition of Begaree, was to construct a system of roads, which would admit of all articles being carried upon beasts of burden, or even dragged in wheeled conveyances of various kinds.

"For the furtherance of this purpose, a road first designed by Major Kennedy, and executed by Lieutenant Briggs, has been constructed from the plains at Kalka to the hill station of Simla. It is about fifty miles in length, already sixteen feet in breadth, and it has nowhere a steeper gradient than three feet in the hundred, constituting a hardly perceptable rise.

"From this road, branches have been carried to the Military stations at Kussowlie and Subathu; and a branch is now being made to connect those stations with the plains towards the Sutlej."*

In 1851, Sir William Gomm, the Commander-in-Chief, succeeding Sir Charles Napier, visited Simla, accompanied by Lady Gomm. His Excellency purchased Barnes' Court, where he resided for the four succeeding years he retained office.

Lieutenant Sale, son of Sir Robert Sale, a gallant young officer, while out shooting, fell over the cliffs, close to the Hurreepore bridge, on the 30th April of this year and was killed; he was buried in the Simla cemetery. This accident cast a great gloom over the station for some time.

Lord Dalhousie left Simla late this season, and, for several years afterwards, no Governor-General honoured and gladdened the station with his presence.

* Marquis Dalhousie's Minute to the Court of Directors, 1856.

Great scarcity of water was experienced in 1852, all over the hills, as very little snow fell during the winter and the previous monsoon had been very light—in consequence much distress was experienced. A violent shock of earthquake occurred on the 26th May. Earthquakes do sometimes occur in these hills, though they are neither very frequent nor very violent. Moorcroft in his travels mentions an earthquake, which occurred in 1803, in the State of Ghurwal, the little capital of which, Srinuggur, was nearly destroyed.

Shocks more or less violent have been experienced in Simla, and recorded during the years, 1836-37-38-46-52-56-68-75-77-78, and also in the summer of 1897.

The *Calcutta Gazette* of the 11th August 1852, announced the nomination, and sanction of Municipal Commissioners for Simla, under Act XXVI of 1850. These Commissioners were at first Government Officials, who framed a Code of Local Rules and Regulations, which did not meet with the approval of the generality of the house proprietors, and on account of which principally, a meeting of the latter was convened on the 18th September 1854, for the purpose of discussing Municipal measures to be adopted for the benefit of the Station. Another Code of Rules was drawn out, a Memorial signed by thirty-six house proprietors, and submitted to Government. A lengthy correspondence went on through Lord W. Hay, the Deputy Commissioner, on the subjects of electing members and of granting of funds derived from various sources, such as ground rent, forest-produce, the Abkaree, &c., to be utilized for local expenditure on public institutions, and for repairing the roads, &c. The correspondence continued till the middle of the following year, when Government sanctioned almost all that had been asked. Another election took place on the 26th August 1855, which may be called the first real election of Municipal Commissioners, and at length the new civic body entered upon its labours. For some years subsequently, an annual

election of Commissioners took place from the house proprietors, the existing Deputy Commissioner being *ex-officio* President. The first tax levied on house rents was 3 per cent. Subsequently it was raised to 5 per cent., then to 10 per cent., at which rate it is now levied.

The Simla Club, established during 1852, was afterwards, in 1866, discontinued for a time, being greatly in debt. It has since been re-established, and is now flourishing under the title of the "United Service Club."

The Marquis of Dalhousie spent the summer of 1854 at Chini and in its vicinity, where he built a temporary residence, as he was desirous of escaping the rains of Simla, this part of the hills being beyond the influence of the monsoons. The climate of Chini is noted for being particularly dry, bracing and healthy.

In 1868, the officer in charge of the Beas Division, reported extensive discoveries of minerals, gold, silver, copper, iron, lead, antimony, tin, zinc, manganese; besides these, sapphires and rubies are said to have been found.

Lord and Lady Canning visited Simla, in 1860; Sir Hugh Rose, in succession to Lord Clyde also came up in the same year, and he did so for several years in succession.

Lord Elgin, the Viceroy succeeding Lord Canning, visited the sanitarium in the year 1863. In November of that year, he marched across the hills towards Dalhousie, but unhappily never reached that place alive. He died *en route* and is interred in the Churchyard at Dhurmsala, or Bhagsoo, a name by which the place is also known, though it is strictly speaking only applicable to the Military convalescent depôt at that place. A good-sized monument of dark-coloured stone is raised over his grave, and a suitable inscription on a marble slab, which was sent out by Lady Elgin from England, records the time, place and circumstances connected with His Lordship's death.

Lord Lawrence, the succeeding Viceroy, came to Simla in 1864, and was the first Viceroy who was accompanied by the Supreme Council and all the Public Offices, since which time their advent has been annual, with the exception of the year 1874, when the famine in Bengal occurred.

A sad accident took place in 1864. Sir Alexander Lawrence, son of Sir Henry Lawrence, and nephew of the Viceroy, Sir John Lawrence, lost his life while on an expedition into the interior. A bridge near the cliffs of Dralli, not far from Chini, gave way under his feet, and he was dashed down to a great depth. His body was brought into Simla, and was interred in the new cemetery.

A scheme for extending the telegraph wire from Umballa to Simla was about this time (1855) mooted, but not carried out till later. The cost was estimated at Rs. 25,000, and the advantage of being in direct telegraphic communication with Calcutta discussed and allowed, but the house proprietors could not be prevailed on to subscribe. Government subsequently, on Lord Clyde's recommendation, took the matter in hand and sanctioned its construction in 1859.

In 1856, Simla was visited by three brothers of the name of Schlagentweit, sent out to India by the Prussian Government to take a series of magnetic observations. One of them was murdered near Ladakh.

The memorable year of the Mutiny of 1857, commenced in Simla as all over India, with a feeling of some coming, yet undefined, evil, though outwardly all was apparently safe. On the 11th May, the storm broke at Meerut and elsewhere, and a panic seized the unprepared inhabitants of Simla. Hastily orders were issued by some, who took the command of affairs in hand, for all the ladies and children to assemble at first at the Church and subsequently at the Simla Bank, in case a necessity arose to seek a place of refuge. Great was the confusion which ensued. On the signal agreed upon (the

firing of two guns) being given, a few rolled up bundles of bedding and clothes, and hurried to the place of rendezvous. Some did not even wait to collect their necessary garments, but started as they were, with alarm depicted on their countenances. Unfortunately there was no one to take the lead and restore any kind of order. Thus ladies were in hysterics, children crying and the gentlemen hastily endeavouring to erect barricades on the top of the hill on which the Simla Bank once stood. After a time, the rumour came that the Goorkha regiment stationed at Jutogh had mutinied, and that some of the Goorkhas were coming to "loot" Simla. This made matters worse, and immediately not only was the Bank deserted, as it was supposed that would be the first place the Mutineers would try to seize, but some went off by by-paths, avoiding the main road, to Kussaulie and Dugshai to seek protection in the European Barracks. Some sought shelter in the territories of the Hill Chiefs of the neighbourhood, others rushed into the interior of the hills, filling the dâk bungalows on the road. All appeared to be bereft for the time of their senses. The scenes that followed were so ludicrous, seeing the utter want of adequate cause for alarm, and shed so little glory on the courage of those in authority and of the inhabitants, European as well as Native, that the less written on the subject the better. Suffice it to say that in a few weeks order was restored, people returned to their houses, surprised to find them and their property intact, for, notwithstanding the dire confusion, it was astonishing that no robberies took place, scarcely even a petty theft occurring, though the opportunities for dishonesty were so numerous, houses having been left open and unprotected, even keys and cash having been heedlessly forgotten on tables and in drawers. The cash in the Simla Bank was perhaps saved from being made away with, by the simple fact of the then Secretary having the key of the strong room in his

pocket, when he, with others, left the bank to take care of itself.

Sir George Anson, the Commander-in-Chief, of course, had to hurry down to the plains, on the news of the Mutiny reaching Simla. He was seized with illness on the road, and before he could reach Delhi he died.

Early in the following year, the proclamation that the Government of India had been transferred from the Company to the Queen was read by Lord W. Hay, the Deputy Commissioner, in the Assembly Rooms, to the inhabitants, and in the presence of most of the Chieftains of the Cis-Sutlej States, who had been invited to attend. This and the following year, 1859, saw Simla filled with invalids, the maimed and wounded, who had suffered in the Mutiny, and the station was the refuge of many of our countrywomen, who had been overwhelmed with pitiable disasters in the plains. The hill chieftains, one and all, remained loyal and faithful to the British Government, assisting it to the best of their power, for which they were greatly praised and received in most instances rewards for their services: Lord and Lady Canning, and Sir Colin Campbell (afterwards Lord Clyde), visited Simla in this year (1859).

During and since the Viceroyalty of Lord Lytton, vast improvements have been made in the direction of better sanitation and water-supply, as well as in the principal highways and thoroughfares. In 1878, a carriage-way from Viceregal Lodge was made. It runs over the Ridge and through the Upper Bazar, past Chota Simla and round Jakho, past Sanjooli, Snowdon, through the Lakar Bazar and over the Ridge back to the General Post Office, near which it rejoins the Mall.

The excellent roads of Simla are the special features attracting the attention of a new-comer. They are kept in excellent order, and it may be safely stated that they are unsurpassed by those of any hill station in India, except, perhaps, those of Ootacamund. The roads and

streets are kept well drained and are also well metalled, and are well suited for the enormous jinricksha traffic that now traverses them. The jinricksha, a vehicle which was introduced first into Simla in 1879, from Japan, has now quite superseded the use of the more primitive jampan or litter of former days! A jampan or the *dandi*, which are so common in other hill stations in the Bengal Presidency, is scarcely ever seen on the roads of Simla, and these means of conveyance, will soon, it is believed, become quite as extinct as the dodo or plesiosaurus. The wheeled vehicle when propelled and drawn at a moderate speed is a far more comfortable conveyance, and during the rains affords more protection from a wetting than ever could be afforded by the jampan or the *dandi*, however ingeniously those contrivances might be fitted with hoods and waterproof sheeting.

SCHOOLS.

Bishop Cotton School, Simla, was founded in 1859, by the Most Revd. G. E. L. Cotton, Bishop of Calcutta, in thanksgiving for the suppression of the Indian Mutiny. It was at first located at Jutogh near Simla, and was known as the Simla Public School, but when the founder promulgated statutes for the Institution in 1863, he styled his foundation the Bishop's School, Simla, and this designation was again changed after Bishop Cotton's death in 1866, to that at present in use, for the purpose of perpetuating the name and generosity of the Founder. The school was moved to its present site in 1868.

The government of the school is vested in a body of eight Governors, who act in conjunction with the Head Master. Of these Governors four are *ex-officio*, and four are elected from permanent residents of Simla. The Head Master is appointed by the Bishop of Calcutta. He must be a communicant member of the Church of

England, and *cœteris paribus*, one in Holy Orders is to be preferred to a layman. The assistant masters and subordinate officers are appointed by the Head Master, their number being fixed by the Governors. The present teaching staff consists of three graduates of English Universities, two masters certificated and trained in England, two other experienced teachers, and a munshi.

A limited number of exhibitions has occasionally been awarded; forty-one such are being held at the present time, and the Trustees (who constitute a body apart from the Governors) have the right of accepting any exhibitions founded by private liberality under any rules or on any patronage of which they approve.

Bishop Cotton intended this School to perform for India the same function which the large public schools do for England, and he expressed a wish that the authorities of the institution should endeavour to develop it on the same lines as Rugby and Marlborough (with which he himself was connected) have been extended in England. Accordingly, the curriculum has been arranged to fulfil this object so far as the circumstances of the country will allow. Latin is taught throughout the school, and mathematics is made a special feature of instruction, so that many pupils have gone direct to the British Universities, and have taken a position therein as good as that obtained by students coming from ordinary public schools in England. French, Greek, music, and drawing are also taught as optional subjects. All the boys are required to attend daily prayers, and to receive regular instruction in the Holy Scripture, the Church Catechism, and the Prayer Book. There are at present 168 names on the school boards.

The school buildings are situated at Patina, about two miles from Simla, in the best possible locality, the site having been especially chosen for its healthy aspect, occupying, as it does, a commanding position, 6,400 feet above the level of the sea. The class rooms and dormitories, very substantially erected of stone,

have been built with special attention to the abundant supply of light and air, and, with the addition of a large chapel, dining hall, carpenter's shop, and masters' houses, form a group of buildings affording the opportunity of carrying on the work of a large public school on English lines somewhat unique for this country.

The following is a small sketch of the opening ceremony:—

In the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, one Eternal God, the foundation-stone of this school, called Bishop Cotton's School, Simla, erected as a memorial of the Mutiny of 1857, and as a thank-offering for deliverance from same, was laid on 26th day of September 1866, by H. E. Sir John Lawrence, Baronet, G.C.B., G.C.S.I.

THE HON. SIR D. F. MACLEOD, K.C.S.I.,
being Lieut.-Governor of the Punjab;

THE RIGHT REV. G. E. L. COTTON, D.D.,
Bishop of Calcutta;

COLONEL REYNELL TAYLOR, C.B., C.S.I.,
Commissioner of the Province;

THE REV. T. C. SMYTH, D.D.,
the Chaplain of Simla;

AND THE REV. S. SLATER,
Head Master of the School.

BENEDICTUS BENEDICAT.

The school was then formally and finally named "Bishop Cotton School."

Subsequently a Chapel was built and a tablet placed in it bearing the following inscription:—

"The Chapel and School were erected by public subscription with the assistance of Government, at the

instance of the late Right Reverend G. E. L. Cotton, D.D., Bishop of Calcutta, as a thank-offering to Almighty God for His deliverance of the British People in India during the Mutiny of 1857. The foundation-stone was laid on September 26th, 1866, in the Bishopric of the Right Reverend G. E. L. Cotton, D.D., and the building was completed December 31st, 1869, in the Bishopric of the Right Reverend R. Milman, D.D."

The buildings include, besides that for the accommodation of the scholars, which is ample, the Chapel, a hospital, a serjeant's lodge and three detached buildings for the masters.

The total cost of the buildings was upwards of Rs. 2,12,500. There are five resident masters, and it may be said the institution is one of the best of the kind in India.

It may not also be inappropriate to state that the Viceroy for the time being is "a visitor" of the school, that pupils from it have been very successful in passing examinations, enabling them to enter the Roorkee College, out of which they have gone with credit if not *èclat*. There is a Volunteer Company from the school, which, under its Honorary Colonel, Chanter, one of the masters, has been frequently complimented by the Government of India for "its smartness and efficiency in drill."

Boys, except under special circumstances, are not admitted above the age of 16.

The following scale of fees is charged per mensem to pupils of this Institution :—

	House Boarders.	School Boarders.	Day Boarders.	Day Scholars.
High School ...	Rs. 70 ...	Rs. 42 ...	Rs. 20 ...	Rs. 14
Middle School ...	" 60 ...	" 36 ...	" 18 ...	" 12
Primary School ...	" 50 ...	" 30 ...	" 16 ..	" 10

A reduction, the particulars of which may be learnt on application to the Head Master, is made for brothers who are school boarders.

An extra incidental charge of Re. 1 a month has also to be paid for each pupil.

These terms include board, tuition, medical attendance, and the use of books and stationery. The general average terms have been rather enhanced, as the Governors found those formerly in vogue did not meet the expenses of the institution. This perhaps is somewhat unfortunate, for it would be as well to make the benefits of the school as extensive as possible, though of course as far as possible, compatible with the funds available.

The Convent School.—On one of the sites, known as "little Chelsea," which had been thought of for Bishop Cotton School, was built, in 1866-67, a convent named "the Convent of Jesus and Mary." Attached to it are two schools, one for the education of girls as boarders. Children of all persuasions are received in this department, and a fair education can be obtained in English, French, music and singing, &c. The other school is called the "Orphanage," named "St. Francis's School," and is for Orphans belonging to the Roman Catholic faith. This portion is principally supported by charitable contributions, Government making the small allowance of Rs. 2-8 for each orphan child of soldiers.

This School was first established on the Elysium Hill, on the north-east side of Simla, beyond Stirling Hill.

In 1866, it was thought advisable to abolish the Boys' school, the few lads living there being sent to Agra, as a nucleus for the school then opened at that place, and in lieu thereof to build a large and commodious Convent at Chota Chelsea for the education of girls only, under the immediate patronage of the Vicar Apostolic of Agra. It is now under the patronage of His Grace the Archbishop of Agra. The main portion of this building is 193 feet long, and the transverse portion, 84 feet. It was finished in 1868, and has accommodation for 450 girls. It has since been added

to and much improved. The Convent has two departments, one being the boys' school, where children of all persuasions are received for tuition and board. This is called St. Francis' School. The other department is the orphanage proper. Both institutions are conducted by the Religieuses of Jesus and Mary. The parents of children, not belonging to the army or not receiving the Government allowance, have to pay Rs. 10 per mensem for a single child, Rs. 18 for two sisters and Rs. 24 for three of one family, besides extras for music, drawing and singing. Orphans and soldiers' children, unable to pay that fee, are also received and maintained. The Convent is supported principally from school fees. It also receives a small allowance from the Government. During Christmas and other vacations the pupils are permitted to leave the Convent and remain only during such absence with their parents and guardians. Subscriptions from the charitable public also help to maintain the Orphanage.

Auckland High School for Girls.—The Institution called Auckland High School was opened in 1866, not, however, in its present buildings, but in a house on Jakho called "Holly Lodge," recently occupied by General Morton. Before 1870, the numbers had so increased, that removal to other quarters had to be made. Auckland House a building, then a good deal smaller than it is now, was secured. Originally it was a one-storeyed bungalow, and as hereinbefore pointed out was built by Lord Auckland as Simla's first Government House. It now boasts of four storeys. All its later additions and improvements, it owes entirely to the present Principal, who has been connected with the school since 1870, first as Professor of Music, and, since 1890, as Principal and Music Instructress. At the end of 1889, the school, like many other Indian institutions, temporarily collapsed, and was re-opened by the present Principal, with a small but efficient staff of teachers. For the first fortnight

there was not a single pupil. At the end of that time matters began to improve, and presently there were six boarders.

Now there are sixty boarders, and between 140 and 150 pupils in the school altogether. As a boarding establishment, its advantages are many. The house is situated on a hill of its own, so that it is thoroughly healthy and airy. It is within easy reach of Christ Church and in a central position for day-scholars. The food, though plain, is liberal and good. The boarders spend between two and three hours daily in the open air, there being a good-sized playground, with swing, trapeze, giant-stride, see-saw, merry-go-rounds, and badminton courts, so that in a short time, pale "plains lilies" are exchanged for hearty 'hill roses,' and the children's voices and appetites show how they thrive under the Auckland House *regimen* and *ménage*. The day-scholars share in the advantages of the playground. Many parents, who would, without Auckland House, be compelled to part with their little ones, and send them home to England, are now able to keep them and send them as day-scholars to this excellent school. Twice a year, as a rule, the Auckland girls appear before the Simla public. Once in the middle of the year, when they give what has become celebrated as their 'Cantata'—the elder girls rendering the music, while the younger ones represent the story in a series of prettily arranged tableaux—and again at their prize-giving in December, at which the pianoforte-playing is a special feature. The staff at present consists of ten members, the majority of whom hold English certificates, two of them who have graduated with honours at English Universities, have come to Auckland House direct from England, and would, if working at home, be High School Mistresses. The latest importation is the Kindergartnerin, a Kindergarten class having been opened in 1898. The curriculum is that laid down in the Code for Government Schools in the Punjab, the Scho

being periodically visited by the Government Inspector, and sending in candidates for the Government Examinations in December every year.

The religious teaching given is in accordance with the doctrine of the Church of England, the Lord Bishop of Lahore being the *ex officio* Warden of the School. The Chaplain of Simla gives a Scripture lesson at the school twice a week.

The Head Master of the Bishop Cotton School for boys fulfils the duties of Secretary to the Board of Governors.

The Mayo School.—This Institution, originally known as Mrs. Tytler's Orphanage, was established by the exertions of that energetic and benevolent lady in 1869. She succeeded in raising about £150 in England, and, on her return to Simla in 1868, added considerably to the sum by the proceeds of a concert and fancy sale. In April 1869, she opened the "Asiatic Christian Orphanage" with two native children. During the course of this year, it was, however, thought expedient to give up the idea of a purely native orphanage in the hills, and instead, to establish one for European and Eurasian children, which seemed more needed. By her indefatigable efforts during this and the following year, Mrs. Tytler succeeded in raising a considerable sum of money, and in June 1871, she had the well-earned pleasure of seeing the premises, which she had built at her own risk and under her own superintendence, opened by the then Viceroy, Earl Mayo.

A Committee, consisting of several gentlemen and ladies, was afterwards formed at Simla, and it was agreed to purchase from Mrs. Tytler the Estate occupied by the institution established by her, under the name of the "Mayo Institute and Himalayan Christian Orphanage," and to carry it on under the title of the "Mayo Industrial School," as an asylum for European and Eurasian girls, whose circumstances are such as to make them fit objects for compassionate help.

Charges at this institution are Rs. 16 a month for one girl or Rs. 14 each for two of the same family and for three or more children of the same family, Rs. 12 each, per mensem. These rates are made as low as possible, in order that parents and charitable-minded residents may be induced to send other than their own children to receive their education here.

The building is large enough to accommodate from 100 to 150 inmates. It is situated about a mile and a quarter from the Simla Church, on the road to the Tunnel, and is called "North Stoneham."

The object of the institution is to provide a home, with a sound English and industrial education for European and Eurasian girls, free of charge to destitute orphans, and for moderate payment, to those orphans, or otherwise whose parents and guardians can afford to pay. It is not endowed and the only source of income, other than public contributions, from which the non-paying children can be maintained, is a monthly grant-in-aid from the Government, dependant upon the results of the annual Government inspection, and the interest of money invested as a reserve fund. The management rests with the Committee, of which the Lord Bishop of the Diocese and the Chaplain of Simla are *ex officio* members. The latter is Honorary Secretary of the Committee. There is also a small Ladies' Committee one member of which acts as Honorary Secretary of that Committee. There are now about 40 orphans on the foundation. A considerable change is shortly to be made on the Industrial side of this Institution, so that the training afforded by this branch of the School may be made more real, and consonant with the objects of the Charity.

A large cooking range has been provided and set up, and the children will be instructed in cooking. As soon as there are a sufficient number instructed sufficiently to undertake the cooking of meals, it is proposed to discharge the native cook, so that

duties may be performed by the children themselves and they may be thoroughly trained and fitted for domestic service, or be rendered suitable wives should they ever marry. They are also instructed in the various duties of household *ménage* in order to fit them for domestic duties, if need be. Children are not permitted to enter domestic service, before they attain the age of seventeen. Before such an engagement is concluded, a month's trial is allowed, at the end of which, should a mistress desire to retain the girl's services, the employer shall engage in writing to retain the girl in her own service, until she (the employer) has provided her with other service or a suitable home. Girls going out to service may return and will be received back in the orphanage at the end of a month's trial; but after the expiration of that probationary period cannot be received back again in the Institution.

Instruction is given also in plain needle-work, so as to enable the pupils to make themselves useful in service, by mending, sewing, &c.

A payment of a lump sum of Rs. 1,500 will, in special cases, entitle the child, so paid for to admission as a free scholar, and she will be educated, trained and provided for gratis, until she attains the age of seventeen, when she will or should have fitted herself to earn her own livelihood.

Christ Church Schools.—These schools, which consist of a school for the tuition of boys and girls respectively, were founded in 1877, through the exertions of the late Lord Bishop of Lahore, then Archdeacon of the Diocese. They are under the control of a Board of Directors consisting of the Chaplain of Simla as President, and Honorary Secretary, and the Committee of Christ Church as *ex officio*, and two other gentlemen as elected members. The Boys' School has the advantage of having a Head Master, trained in England, as its Principal and a staff of five masters, duly trained to

instruct the pupils. In the Girls' School the teaching is done by a trained school mistress and an assistant teacher.

The subjects taught are those pertaining to the Primary and Middle Schools, as laid down in the Punjab Educational Code. In the Boys' School the optional subjects of Mathematics, Latin and Urdu are also taught. There are at present being educated at the Boys' School, 50 pupils. The numbers attending the Girls' School are about the same in numbers.

St. Michael's School is an educational establishment for boys managed by the Christian Brothers. It is a Roman Catholic institution, and teaches up to the Primary and Middle School standards.

The Loretto Girls' School.—The Loretto Sisters also have a school for the education of the better classes of children at Tara Hall. Here the education afforded is up to the High School standard, and all accomplishments, such as music, drawing, painting and foreign languages are also taught.

The Dunmurry House School.—This school has already begun to make its mark. The education is excellent. The Dunmurry School has been very successful in preparing pupils for the public service in India, as well as for the large public schools in England. None but the sons of gentlemen are received for tuition at this school and up to the age of 15 years.

There is also the Municipal Board School, which is now working up to the High School standard. It is a Native School. A new school house has been recently erected. The education is on the grant-in-aid principle. Native schools here do not, however, progress, a well as they might be expected. The population i particularly migratory, and the school course has to b cramped in about nine or ten months. The return of th boys' parents to the plains necessarily means an inte ruption to the children's studies, and consequently th educational benefits afforded by the M. B. School ar not properly availed of. As the population becom

more stationary there may be an improvement. The scholastic materials are good, the teachers are unexceptional; but the boys are not at all given a fair chance.

MISSIONS.

Christian Missions.—To the Christian residents of Simla the privilege and honour was accorded in the year 1840 of establishing a Christian Mission to the hill people beyond and around Simla with its headquarters in Kotgarh. The leaders in this movement were Mr. Gorton, C.S., of "Gorton Castle;" Major Boileau, who gave his name to "Boileau Gunge;" Mr. Kennedy, of "Kennedy House;" Captain Jackson, Dr. Laughton and Dr. Dempster. It was, at first, an independent effort, which was not connected with any Society, and was then called "The Himalayan Mission." By the advice of Bishop Wilson of Calcutta, it was made over to the Church Missionary Society in 1847.

The Kotgarh Mission is thus the oldest C. M. S. Mission in the Punjab. A considerable sum of money was collected, of which the "Gorton Fund" of Rs. 31,500, still remains.

Kotgarh, called by the natives "Guru Kot," or the house of the "Guru" (whose grave is still seen in the village decorated with flags,) is situated on the road from Simla to Tibet, 54 miles from Simla, and 6,700 feet above the level of the sea. on a spur of Mount Huttoo. Christ Church, Simla, is 7,200 feet high, Mount Huttoo, 11,000, Narkunda 8,739, and Fagu, 8,325.

The united Tehsil of Kotgarh and Kotkhai is about 19 miles long and 13 broad. In 1873, it contained 41 villages with a population of 2,400 souls. It now contains about 3,000. It was never, however, intended that the Kotgarh Mission should be confined within the narrow limits of the Tehsil, nor is it so restricted in its operations. It is essentially an itinerant Mission

to the hill tribes, from the borders of Thibet to the plains of India.

Captain Gerard, the traveller, who was 30 years in India, and who lived many years in Kotgarh, spoke, more than 50 years ago, of the desire, which the people had for education, and recommended the neighbourhood as an excellent site for a Christian Mission. Captain Jackson, in 1840, wrote:—

"For my part it seems, that the Lord has opened the way, and made it plain for us to establish here a Church Mission, and I pledge myself to pay annually, as long as my life is spared, £60 for its support."

Mr. Gorton's subscription was £100 per annum.

Kotgarh had been an English cantonment after the defeat of the Gurkhas by Sir David Ochterlony. The mess-house and premises were bought for the use of the Mission, when the Cantonment was given up. Schools were established in several villages, the 'melas' were visited and itinerations carried on, far and wide, by the Missionaries and Catechists. Boys were sent to Kotgarh for education from the snowy regions of Kanawar. Kulu has been often visited by C.M.S. Missionaries, both from Kotgarh and Kangra.

Kotgarh lies between the spheres of Brahmanism and Lamaism. Some 25 miles beyond Kotgarh, Brahmins are rarely met with. Sixty miles beyond it, there is a well-known Lama Monastery, which is said to have a library. Infanticide, polyandry, and even human sacrifices were formerly not uncommon amongst the hill tribes. The effigies of the 'dèotas' or gods are still carried about by the priests at 'melas,' and the people dance before them waving branches or swords. One of the 'dèotas' is called "shaitan" or Satan. The prin-cipal Missionaries in Kotgarh have been:—

(1) The Revd. Dr. and Mrs. Procknow (from 184 to 1857), Dr. Procknow then succeeded Dr. Gössner as the Superintendent of the Gossner Mission Berlin.

(2) The Revd. W. and Mrs. Rebsch (from 1862 to 1895), Mr. Rebsch died in Simla, in 1895, aged 79. Mrs. Rebsch died in 1889, aged 72.

(3) The Revd. H. F. and Mrs. Beutel, who are now there.

Lord Northbrook visited the Mission in 1872, and gave a donation of Rs. 200 to it. He afterwards spoke of the importance of the Mission both in India and England, and the interest he felt in it.

There have been from time to time a considerable number of converts in this Mission, notably the Revd. James Kadshu, the first native pastor of the C.M.S. congregation in Lahore, who was baptised by the Revd. Mr. Merk, in Kotgarh, in 1852.

There are now (in 1898) 56 Christians connected with the Mission, of whom 28 are communicants; 116 children are being educated in 7 schools. There were 9 baptisms in 1897. The church was built by Mr. Rebsch, in 1873, at a cost of Rs. 4,000. The Maharajah of Patiala gave Rs. 250 towards it.

A second Missionary and also Lady Missionaries are now needed for Kotgarh and its neighbourhood.

The Simla C.M.S. Mission has always been closely connected with that of Kotgarh. The Revd. Mr. Wilkinson, a C.M.S. Missionary for 25 years, spent the last three years of his life in Simla, where he died, after commemorating, with Dr. Procknow and other friends, the Jubilee of the Society in 1848.

For many years Mr. and Mrs. Rebsch spent their winters in Simla, and at last lived there altogether.

A Church was built some years ago in the Simla Bazaar by the energetic efforts of the first Indian Pastor of the C.M.S. congregation, the Revd. Thomas Edwards, whose death in January 1894 was mourned by many friends both European and Indian. A permanent English Missionary is now desired for Simla and its neighbourhood, and it is hoped that one may be appointed. To this Church is attached a native school.

There is also a small Mission maintained by the Baptist Missionary Society, and a Native Chapel and School worked in connection with it. These were established by the late Revd. Gulzar Shah, a Baptist Missionary, and are now under the supervision of the Baptist Missionary in charge of the Simla Baptist Mission.

The Loodiana American Presbyterian Mission maintains a Mission at Subathu under Dr. Carleton, a medical graduate from one of the Universities of the United States. This Mission has been established here since 1837. It is chiefly intended as a sanitarium for old missionaries and invalids belonging to the Mission. There is now, however, a Leper Asylum under the Superintendence of Dr. Carleton established at Subathu. This hospital has to depend entirely on public subscriptions for its maintenance and support. There are several native patients in it under treatment and also two Europeans. A more deserving object for public charity it is impossible to conceive, and yet it can hardly make both ends meet for want of sufficient funds.

THE PRINCIPAL BUILDINGS AND INSTITUTIONS.

Christ Church.

In the year 1836, the Right Reverend Daniel Wilson, Bishop of Calcutta, visited Simla. There was then no Church, but a building was fitted up for public worship. It was situated where the present Northbrook Terrace stands, near the Telegraph Office. On the Bishop's second visitation (in May to October 1840), the temporary building was consecrated and called Christ Church, on the 28th of May. This Church continued for some years as the only place of Anglican or indeed Christian worship in Simla. On the 24th of October, of the same

year, the cemetery near the Bullock Train Office was also consecrated.

The Bishop of Calcutta held his third visitation at Simla from the 1st June to the 17th October 1844. Soon after his arrival, measures were adopted for the erection of a new and commodious Church. A subscription among the community was set on foot, which realized the sum of Rs. 12,228, to which Government added Rs. 5,000. Mr. W. Gorton, the then Superintendent of Hill States, before his departure for Europe, added Rs. 2,000 more towards the building. The foundation-stone of the new Church, now Christ Church, was laid on the 9th of September, in the same year, 1844, by the Bishop of Calcutta, in the presence of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, Sir Hugh Gough, and of most of the residents of the station. A spot for the Church having been levelled in a commanding and centrical situation on a spur of Jakho, the edifice was begun, and though not completed, was opened for Divine Service in May 1847 by Archdeacon Dealtry. The original estimate for the building was only Rs. 16,000, but the cost came to about Rs. 80,000, of which Government gave Rs. 55,000, and the remainder was contributed by private individuals. The Gallery was added in 1855, and an excellent organ presented by Lady Gomm. This organ becoming much damaged by insects was subsequently sold, and a new one procured from England in 1875. The clock was put up in 1860. The bell was cast in Ferozepore, the metal of it being composed from that of a mortar used against the British Army by the Sikhs in the first Punjab Campaign.

The following is the inscription on the corner stone :—

The first corner stone of A NEW CHURCH, for the Station of Simla, to be called and known as CHRIST CHURCH, SIMLA, was solemnly deposited with prayers to ALMIGHTY GOD, for His blessing on the designer, the architect, the builder, and all the benefactors to the

same, BY DANIEL WILSON, BISHOP OF CALCUTTA AND METROPOLITAN OF INDIA, in the presence of HIS EXCELLENCY SIR HUGH GOUGH, BART., G.C.B., *Commander-in-Chief in India*, THE HON. J. CADWALLADER ERSKINE, Sub-Commissioner, North-West Frontier, and of several of the gentry, and Military Officers residents in Simla, on the 9th of September, A.D. 1844. In the eighth year of the reign of HER MAJESTY QUEEN VICTORIA, THE RIGHT HON. SIR H. HARDINGE, BART., G.C.B., being Governor-General of India and HON. JAMES THOMASON, Lieutenant-Governor of North-West Provinces, "*Des soli per Jesu Christum sit Gloria in Sempeternum.*"

Several additions have been made subsequently, enlarging the edifice to accommodate the increasing population. In 1877, a stone pulpit was erected to the memory of the Right Revd. Robert Milman, D.D., Lord Bishop of Calcutta, by the congregation of Christ Church.

A clock was ordered for the Church from England in 1853 at a cost of £170, but it was not put up till 1860. In 1855, a gallery was added. In 1860, the stained glass windows were put up. An organ was obtained from England in July 1855 at a cost of £250, a great portion of which amount was contributed by Lady Gomm. This organ being found much damaged by insects and dry-rot, was sold, and a new one obtained from England in 1875. Twenty-eight years wear and tear and climatic influences have well nigh rendered the second organ useless, and ere long an excellent instrument, now being specially built in England for this Church, will, it is hoped, be soon erected in Christ Church.

The Church was slightly enlarged in 1864, by increasing the chancel behind the pulpit. This addition is occupied by the choir, organ, and Communion Table. It has also increased the sittings in the body of the Church to 460, which is now by no means sufficient for the number of visitors during the season. The Church

can however still accommodate over 600 worshippers. It is calculated that no less than three thousand adults are residents of the station, from April to the end of October, of whom more than half are Church-goers.

Christ Church, so far as its architecture is concerned, is not in any way a thing of beauty. It is hard to describe it as belonging to any special order of architecture, unless it be the archaic order of Public Works, Gothic! It can best be described by referring to the picture of a Church usually provided in a toy box of bricks. It is precisely of this order of architecture, which probably the Christopher Wrens of the first half of this century thought admirably suitable for a Himalayan place of worship. It is 100 feet long, exclusive of the late addition, and 54 feet wide, outside measurement. It consists of a nave, a chancel and a tower, but possesses no claims to architectural beauty or correctness of style. Within, it is commodious and well fitted, so that, while it reflects little credit upon the original architect's taste, it does in itself bear witness to our desire to have the House of God seemly and worthy of the high purpose to which it is designed.

The Church has since been beautified by the addition of a beautiful lectern wrought in brass, as well as ornamental altar rails, also of this metal.

The chancel window is a memorial one erected by subscription in memory of the late Mrs. Mathew, wife of the late Bishop Mathew, the Lord Bishop of this Diocese.

It represents allegorically the "*Te Deum.*" The figures are beautifully executed in coloured glass, and it is believed to be an excellent specimen of stained glass art. The sides of the chancel on either side of this window are decorated by a fresco designed by Mr. Lockwood Kipling, the former Superintendent of the Mayo School of Arts, Lahore, and carried out, under the supervision of Mr. Kipling, by his most promising pupils at that Art School. This piece of work has been admirably

performed and does credit to the designer and those who carried out his design.

There is also a very handsome stained glass window erected on the south side of the Church, to the memory of the late Mrs. James Walker, an old resident of Simla, and wife of Mr. James Lewis Walker, C.I.E., a well-known banker in the Punjab. It is allegorical, and depicts six figures, richly executed in appropriate colours, representing Faith, Hope, Charity, Fortitude, Patience and Humility. The whole forms a harmonious combination in colouring.

• Both of these windows were very costly and are works of ecclesiastical art of high order and great beauty! There are several handsome mural tablets on the walls of the Church, in memory of distinguished military officers, who have been connected with this station. Not the least interesting, is one to the left of the pulpit and on the southern side, to the memory of Major-General Godwin, C.B., who commanded the troops, that formed the second Burmese expedition in 1852, and took Burma. There are also mural monuments to the memory of the late Lieutenant-Generals Sir T. D. Baker, K.C.B., and Sir William Kidston Elles, K.C.B; Colonel A. C. Crookshank, who was killed during the last Black Mountain Campaign, and others.

The Union Church.—This is a Non-Conformist place of worship, and is practically undenominational. It is situated just above the General Post Office, and was built in 1870, being occupied for purposes of worship about the 1st of May of that year. The Church is vested in Trustees, who also hold the funds subscribed for the support of the pastor, who holds charge of the congregation. The latter is provided with a neat and comfortable little manse adjoining this place of worship.

The ministers, who have had the care of this charge, have been from time to time drawn from several dissenting denominations. For a long time the pastor was a Baptist Minister. For some time subsequently

the Presbyterians supplied the pastor ; but for the last ten years or so, the minister has been drawn from the Wesleyan Communion. The Union Church or Chapel is a plain but substantial building, seating some 250 people, being of the following internal dimensions—50′ by 40′. It has a lower story, which is used for prayer meetings, and gatherings of this character, while it also affords accommodation for the Simla Young Men's Christian Association. The architecture is very similar to that ordinarily to be seen in the shape of chapels in small stations in the plains and in some of the larger hill stations. The Trustees form a Committee, who administer the affairs of this place of worship and represent the congregation, who worship at it.

"All Saints" Church at Boileaugunge was built as a chapel of ease to Christ Church, the Parish Church of Simla. It is situated close to Viceregal Lodge, and is served by the Chaplain of Simla or the Assistant Chaplain. It is only kept open during the summer season, and ordinarily only for Evensong. Communion is celebrated there every Thursday morning during the summer. It affords accommodation for about 100 people, and is very convenient for those Anglicans, who reside in and about the Chowra Maidan and Observatory-hill as well as in Boileaugunge and Summer Hill.

The Roman Catholic Cathedral was built in 1886, and is a handsome building of the French Gothic style of architecture, and externally is very pleasing, as a building, to the æsthetic eye. It consists of a nave, and two aisles, two side chapels, a high altar and two side altars, a vestry, baptistry, and confessional. The Tower, which it is intended to finish, when funds will admit of this being done, will complete the building and be the complement required to render it architecturally a thing of beauty.

The interior of this Cathedral does not, from an æsthetic point of view, come up to the exterior. The decorations are not quite what one would expect, from the

pretty exterior. These defects will doubtless, in course of time, when funds become available, be removed. The Cathedral cost about a lakh of rupees to build, and when it is considered that this sum of money was mainly contributed by the Roman Catholic community of Simla, by no means a wealthy one, it serves as a striking monument of the pious generosity of this body.

The belfry is fitted with a chime of bells, a novelty in the Himalayas. These, when rung, remind one of the Cathedral chimes at home, and are very melodious and pleasing to the ear.

There is also a small chapel, attached to the Convent of Jesus and Mary, at Chota Chelsea, at the back of Jakho, which is attended by the orphans and pupils at the Convent school, and some of the Roman Catholic residents of the neighbourhood of Chota Simla. The music at the services at the Convent Chapel is excellent, the nuns and convent children form the choir.

Simla Cemeteries.

Simla has three cemeteries. The most ancient burying-ground is situated close to the Mall in Chota Simla, and was opened about 1828, for the earliest tablet bears date 1829. In process of time this resting-place for the dead was found to be too near to the abodes of the living, so was closed.

Another cemetery was then opened on the Cart road, in Burra Simla. This was consecrated by Bishop Wilson on the 24th October 1840. Here again as the population increased and houses sprang up on all sides, it was found necessary to close the second and open a third cemetery on a spur above the "Old" Brewery and at a considerable distance from the populated part of Simla. This ground has been more than once extended and now runs to a considerable distance down the spur.

Another burying ground was opened in 1878, on a spur below the Roman Catholic Orphanage, especially for the use of the community residing on the orphanage

premises. Close to the gate of this cemetery is the tomb of Colonel Parker, who died of fever contracted while on a shooting expedition. The Colonel's body was not, however, interred at this spot. It was buried in the oldest burial ground—in Chota Simla. His brother officers sent a handsome tablet to be erected over his tomb, but Colonel Tapp, who was then Superintendent of the Hill States, thinking that this spot was more picturesque than the sombre graveyard, erected the monument here and placed the tablet on it. The tomb is a neat structure, with a basement of seven steps, its superstructure being a block of masonry, surmounted by an urn. On the white marble tablet is the following epitaph : " To the memory of Colonel Charles Parker, Bengal Artillery, who died at Simla, 27th April 1837, ætat 54. This monument has been erected by his brother officers in token of their regard and esteem for a warm friend and an ornament to their profession."

The Kutcherry or Court House.—Just above the Roman Catholic Cathedral stands the Court House of Simla, a massive stone building in the Norman Baronial style of architecture.

It contains the Deputy Commissioner's Court and Office, the Court of the District Judge (*ex-officio* Judge of the Court of Small Causes), the Court of the Registrar of the Small Cause Court, and those of the two Munsiffs, the Government Treasury and the Treasury Office. The District Superintendent of Police has also his office here. The building is four-storied. The Treasury stands in the basement storey, the Deputy Commissioner's, District Judge's and Small Cause Courts, and the offices attached to the latter, together with the Sessions Judge's rooms and the office of the District Superintendent of Police, are all on the second storey ; while the topmost flat forms the record rooms of all the Courts and Offices.

The Treasury Officer's Court (which is also the Court of a Munsiff), the Tehsildar's and Munsiff's (2nd class) Court, the English office belonging to the Deputy Commissioner and the Treasury English office, as well as the Bar room, are on the ground floor. The accommodation is, on the whole, fairly good. The building viewed externally is gloomy, though imposing in appearance. Its site, at one end of the main bazar, has been selected with due regard to public convenience.

Telegraph Office.—The Government Telegraph office is one of the few buildings that is at all in keeping with the surrounding hills. It is built in the Swiss or Alpine Chalet style and pleases the eye. A portion of the building is occupied by the Director-General of Telegraphs who is in Simla during the official season.

The Government of India Offices, the Offices of Army Head-Quarters and the Roman Catholic Cathedral are built below the Mall, at the bottom of Bentinck Hill. The Government offices consist of two huge, red brick blocks of buildings, four storeys in height. The upper block is occupied by the offices of the Commander-in-Chief, the Adjutant-General and the Quartermaster-General of the Army, and the various subordinate departments belonging to the Army staff, as well as the offices of the Revenue and Agricultural Department and of the Principal Veterinary Officer in India.

The lower block of buildings accommodates the Secretariat offices of the Home, the Military, and the Legislative Departments of the Government of India, as well as the offices of the Principal Medical Officer of H. M.'s Forces, the Commissary General-in-Chief, the Director-General of Ordnance in India, the Director-General of Military Works, the Examiner of Military Works Accounts, and the Accountant-General of the Military Department.

These public offices are built from the design of the Peabody buildings in London. They are substantial-looking edifices, reminding one of the huge warehouses that are to be seen in the business parts of London and Liverpool.

The Public Works Department Offices are situated on the Mall about a hundred yards to the west of the offices just described, and from an architectural point of view are somewhat of an improvement upon them. The block of buildings contains the offices of the Secretary to Government in the Public Works Department, the Accountant-General of the Public Works Department, the Directors of Construction and of Traffic of the Railway Department, and of the Inspector-General of Irrigation.

The Foreign Office is built below the Mall, between the Choura Maidan and Viceregal Lodge. Like the Telegraph Office, it is built on the Swiss Chalet style, and is quite the most picturesque of the Government buildings, and entirely in keeping with its surrounding scenery. Immediately above the Foreign Office stands Peterhoff, formerly the summer residence of the Viceroys, but now used as the Office of the Secretary to the Government of India in the Department of Finance and Commerce. This building presents nothing particularly striking, but the grounds are well laid out and nicely kept.

Viceregal Lodge, designed by Mr. H. Irwin, C.I.E., is a striking object, standing on the top of Observatory Hill, which was levelled to form the site. It was commenced in 1886 and was finished in time for occupation by Lord Dufferin during the last year of his residence at Simla. It is built principally of grey stone from neighbouring quarries. From every side it is an object of beauty; while, at the same time, from its prominent position it commands magnificent views

in all directions. The architectural balance is well preserved, and its external ornamentation is handsome.

The interior is equally admirable. The hall is 30 by 39-9 feet, and from it open the small drawing-room, 30 feet square, on the left; the Council Chamber, 28-3 by 24-1½ feet, and the vestibule room. From the vestibule room, 70 by 16 feet, open the dining room, 70 by 30 feet, the fine ball-room, 70-6 by 30 feet, and the large drawing-room, 60 by 30 feet. To the right of the principal entrance are the Aide-de-Camps' room, 28-3 by 24-1½ feet; two cloak-rooms, each 20-3 by 16-7½ feet; the Private Secretary's office, 20 by 19-10 feet; and the Clerk's office, 20 by 9-3 feet. At the rear of the building are rooms for the accommodation of the steward, and the housekeeper, a table-linen store-room, a dispensing-room and a serving-room. Such is the spacious and well-laid out accommodation on the ground floor. On the first and second floors there are suites of bed, dressing, wardrobe and bath-rooms, sufficient in number for the Viceroy, his family, and a portion of the Staff; also the Viceroy's study and Her Excellency's boudoir.

The interior of the building is magnificently decorated, the walls being papered with *lincrusta* in beautiful designs. The whole palace was furnished by Maple & Co., of Tottenham Court Road, who spared no pains to furnish, upholster and decorate the building in a manner creditable to themselves and appropriate to so grand a palace. The whole building is lighted by electric light, which adds not a little to the beauty of the building and its fairy-like appearance upon occasions of State and festivity. The dining-room is ornamented by shields, upon which are emblazoned the coats-of-arms of every Viceroy and Governor-General that has ruled over the destinies of this Empire. Viceregal Lodge is a palace worthy of the high dignitary that occupies it, and is certainly

second to none out of Calcutta and the other Presidency Towns.

The grounds of Viceregal Lodge are beautifully laid out. It is approached by a long road, winding up from the guard-house and through a well laid-out garden. The roadway is lined with flower beds and ornamental shrubs. To the west are terraces well turfed, prettily planted with ornamental shrubs and flower beds, round the margin of beautifully kept lawns. At the extreme west are the excellent and well maintained lawn-tennis courts. There is also a roadway which leads to the Boileaugunj end of the grounds. In the grounds are three houses for the accommodation of part of His Excellency's Staff—Observatory House, Squires' Hall and Curzon House.

THE TOWN HALL

Is a large, imposing building situated on the Ridge, just above the main or upper Bazar and next to Christ Church. It is intended to be Gothic in style, but experts say that it is of a bastard Gothic order. It was erected at a cost of about Rs. 3,75,000, and is quite *a multum in parvo* of public institutions.

On the ground floor are—(1) The Gaiety Theatre with corridors and *foyers*. (2) The Masonic Hall with retiring room and vaulted entrance. (3) The Municipal Offices, consisting of four separate offices for European officials, a court-yard and five offices for Native clerks. (4) A Police reporting station, consisting of one large office with treasure-room and a chowkidar's room.

On the first floor are—(1) The Gallery of the Theatre with promenading corridors, upper *foyer* and several dressing rooms. (2) Station Library, with three reading rooms, to which there is a carriage-way ascent from the Mall. (3) Two large lamp-rooms with an underground entrance.

On the second floor are—(1) A ball-room or concert hall, with two promenading corridors at the sides, two galleries 12 feet above the dancing floor, and a band gallery at the east end with a retiring room. The ball-room is the finest room of the kind in any hill station in India ; its dimensions are 70 by 50 feet, and the height 50 feet. (2) Drawing-room with ladies' and gentlemen's cloak-rooms, the former used ordinarily as the Assistant Secretary's office and his draughtsman's room.

On the third floor are—(1) Gallery of ball-room, band gallery at east end, and one retiring-room. (2) Supper room, with promenading corridor and a purveyor's room. (3) A room in the tower set aside for meteorological observations. It is problematical when the tower will be completed.

The Gaiety Theatre seats between 300 and 400 people. It is built after the plan which won the prize offered by the Dramatic Society in London, for a design for a bijou theatre, which was to form part of the Dramatic College. The stage is well fitted up, and the scenery is above the average of that to be found in the Mofussil. It is leased by the Simla Amateur Dramatic Club, who cater remarkably well for the playgoing public. The acting is wholly amateur, and is of an order seldom surpassed off the professional stage in Europe.

The Masonic Lodge is relegated to a semi-subterranean vault, which can hold some 70 to 80 persons on an emergency. It much requires however to be better ventilated. Lodge Himalayan Brotherhood, No. 459 E.C., meets here, as also do the Royal Arch Chapter "Dalhousie," the Himalaya Preceptory of Knights Templar, the Knight of Malta Priory (affiliated to the Preceptory) and the Rose Croix Chapter, "Himalaya." All of these masonic institutions are strong in numbers and are well worked. Lodge "Himalayan Brother-

hood" is the oldest and premier Lodge in the Punjab, and has just celebrated its Diamond Jubilee.

The Simla Station Library, which occupies the west end of the second floor of the Town Hall, was founded on the 23rd May 1854, by Lord William Hay, now Marquis of Tweeddale, and some other gentlemen. They acquired, on moderate terms, an existing lending Library owned by Mr. Barrett; the members of the Staff Library made over their books to the new institution on condition that the then members should, so long as they were at Simla, be honorary members of the new Library; and the officers of the 9th Lancers also made over the books of their regimental library on the same terms. The books of the libraries thus acquired formed the nucleus of the present library. In 1884, having got into debt over the purchase of a bungalow, which stood on the site of the present Government Telegraph Office, the committee made over the books and building they occupied to the Simla Municipality, in consideration of its liquidating its debts and paying off the mortgagees. It has since been managed by the Municipal Committee, through an Honorary Secretary, the income being devoted to the purchase of books, newspapers (both Indian and English), magazines, and reviews for the benefit of the subscribers, a sufficient sum being retained for the payment of the establishment. The institution compares favourably with any similar institution in India. Membership is open to all classes.

The following are rates of subscription :—

Annual	Rs.	40
Season from March 15th to November 15th or April 1st to November 30th	"	30
For six months	"	25
For three months	"	13
Monthly	"	5
Fortnightly, to be paid at the time of joining ...	"	3

The number of subscribers, 400, is sufficient evidence of its popularity.

The Town Hall drawing-room, which is an adjunct of the ball-room, is occupied by the Library of the United Service Institution of India, and is also used as a lecture-room and reading-room. The ball-room is not only utilized for Terpsichorean amusements, but also as a lecture-room and place for large public meetings and concerts; while the Fine Arts Exhibition, which is usually held by the Simla Fine Arts Society during the second fortnight of August, is held in the ball-room.

It will thus be seen that though the Municipality has to resort to Mrs. Bouncer's principles of letting lodgings (see *Box and Cox*), the Town Hall serves many useful purposes, and as a public building does a great deal to promote public convenience. It has the great advantage of a central situation.

The supper-room in the Town Hall, besides being used for suppers, is utilized as a place in which to hold small meetings, small private dances and concerts, penny-readings and other minor amusements.

The United Service Institution of India, which is located in the Town Hall, dates its existence from the year 1870. The objects sought to be attained by the Institution are "the discussion and publication of all questions of general and professional interest, with a view to the promotion of Naval and Military art, science, and literature." The entrance fee is five rupees, and the annual subscription the same. All officers of the Royal Navy and Army, and of Volunteer Corps in India, are entitled to become members on payment of the entrance fee and annual subscription; but others require the recommendation of two members of the Institution and the approval of the Council.

A grant of Rs. 250 per mensem is allowed by Government to enable the Institution to secure the services of a paid Secretary; and an Assistant Secretary has also been appointed as a permanent official.

A gold medal is presented annually for the best essay or paper by a member of the Institution on some military subject previously announced. The Institution now numbers on its rolls over 900 members.

An excellent Military Library has steadily been growing since the early days of the Institution. A tolerably complete collection of standard works already exists, and every effort is made, and no expense grudged, to keep the Library complete with all modern works on military, historical and geographical subjects.

The Journal of the Institution is published quarterly. In 1898 the Council sanctioned the grant of Rs. 200 for payment for good articles, and they have lately raised the amount to Rs. 500. Members of the Indian Institution proceeding to the United Kingdom on furlough, or leave exceeding six months, can attend the lectures and use the reading-room, etc., of the Royal United Service Institution, on payment of 10*s*. per annum, while for any period not exceeding six months, they can avail themselves of the same advantages for a payment of only 5*s*.

The Ripon Hospital—Is a pretty brick building, built below the bazar and just above the upper part of the cart road, on a spur which runs south from below the Kutcherry. It was opened in 1882 by His Excellency the Marquis of Ripon. The cost of its erection was defrayed by public subscription. Several of the Native chiefs of India contributed handsomely, and a grant was made by the Municipality.

The hospital is arranged in blocks, consisting of a large main building with two wings. The centre block contains on the ground floor the administrative portion, *viz*., hospital and staff dispensary, out-patients' room, visitors' and committee room, office, operation room, ward for surgical cases, and ophthalmic ward. On the first floor are four wards for paying patients, with one

bed in each ; and four free wards for Europeans, with two beds in each.

The two blocks on either side of the main building contain four wards each, two on the ground floor, and two on the first, similar in every respect to those in the main block. Each ward accommodates four patients. The remaining two blocks are also double-storied, and are each sub-divided into eight small retiring rooms, so that the patients can have their own attendants and, if desired, cook their own food. These are for Native patients. One of the blocks is a maternity hospital. The building formerly used as a contagious ward has been converted into an outdoor dispensary for females.

The upper flat has been comfortably furnished and fitted up as a residence for the Lady Assistant Surgeon. A stair-case has been provided, leading from the bazar above down to the outdoor dispensary rooms. A private room has also been adapted and fitted up for the clinical examination of female patients, both Native and European, thus providing a much needed want.

There are 71 beds in the hospital, 14 for Europeans and the rest for Natives. There were 1,270 indoor patients admitted to the hospital for treatment up to the 31st March 1898. Of these, 109 were Europeans and Eurasians. In 1898 the expenditure on the hospital amounted to Rs. 26,554, and the income to Rs. 28,428.

The hospital is in charge of the civil surgeon, as Honorary Superintendent, and the joint civil surgeon is in visiting attendance. There are also an apothecary and Native assistant surgeon in charge; and a lady assistant surgeon, duly qualified at the Lahore Medical College, holds charge of the female branch of the Institution.

The original cost of the building was Rs. 1,46,343.

A free-ward for Europeans, where they are dieted and receive medical attendance gratis, has been provided,

a large sum of money (about Rs. 21,000) having been raised by means of a Fancy Bazar during the autumn of 1898.

There are certain special wards, *i.e.*, private rooms, set apart for paying patients (Europeans), for which the charges are Rs. 8 and Rs. 6 per diem, respectively. In the other wards reserved for Europeans and Eurasians, but which are not private (that is, several beds are contained in them) patients are charged Rs. 4 and Rs. 2 per diem, respectively. These charges cover dieting, hospital comforts, medicines, and the best medical attendance that Simla can afford; besides the services of trained European nurses, of whom there are four, working under the supervision of a Lady Superintendent, who is also an English trained and fully qualified nurse.

The inmates of the European free-ward will, of course, also enjoy similar advantages to those who are paying patients.

Snowdon.—This is the official residence of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, and was bought, rebuilt, altered and furnished at the expense of the Government of India. It is a commodious, well-built house, having a wing adjoining, which contains a ball-room on the first floor and apartments for guests above it on the second floor. The ball-room is capable of being turned into a theatre or concert room. Attached to it are refreshment rooms, lobbies and corridors for "sitting out," &c. There are also well arranged cloak-rooms for ladies and gentlemen.

At the entrance to Snowdon stands a pretty guard-house which shelters the Native Infantry guard, which mounts there daily during His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief's presence in Simla. A pair of very handsome ornamental gates made of iron and beautifully gilt form the entrance. On each pillar of the gates stands a well polished brass mortar, and a sepoy sentry stands on guard. In front and on both the right and left of the house is a well-kept lawn.

Barnes Court, which was for some time the residence of the Commander-in-Chief, during the time of Sir Hugh Rose and Sir William Mansfield, is now the official residence of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab. It is situated at Chota Simla, and is a place well suited for the residence of the Satrap of the Punjab. A very handsome and spacious ball-room decorated in Moorish style has been added to it within the last decade. The grounds attached to the Barnes Court estate are extensive and well laid out, with pretty walks, fine tennis courts, and several well-turfed and neatly kept terraces.

HOTELS, &c.

The Grand Hotel, of which Chevalier Peliti is the proprietor, is the largest in Simla. The *cuisine* is unexceptionable, and the hotel is excellently managed and generally full in the season. It is centrically situated on Bentinck Hill, close to the public offices and the Post and Telegraph offices.

The Metropole is another popular hotel, though it does not accommodate so many guests as the "Grand." It is also well managed, and the food is excellent. It is situated close to the Club, the principal places of business and the Mall.

The Central Hotel has excellent rooms, and the table is carefully looked after. It is conveniently situated in the vicinity of the Mall. The proprietor is civil and obliging, always ready and anxious to make the lodgers comfortable.

Lowrie's Hotel is close to the Church. It is managed by the proprietor, who is civil and obliging. It is cheaper than any of the three mentioned above.

Longwood Hotel is some little distance from Burra Simla. Many prefer it for this reason, and because of its beautiful and healthy situation on Elysium Hill.

Elysium Hotel, also on Elysium Hill, is under Native management. It is cheap, clean, and the food is good. It is situated just below Longwood Hotel and is also popular. The rooms are well furnished and of good size. The accommodation is, however, somewhat limited.

The United Service Club.

This Club was founded in 1866. The number of members is unlimited. Members of the Supreme Council of the Government of India and of the Indian Civil Service, Commissioned Officers of the Army and Navy, Chaplains of the Indian Ecclesiastical establishments and retired officers of any of the services are all members of this Club. Other gentlemen are also eligible for admission as Honorary Members. The entrance fee is Rs. 120. Admission is by ballot, the candidate being proposed and seconded by members.

The Club estate is one of the most valuable and finest in Simla. The Club House itself is spacious, well built, and comfortably, if not luxuriously, furnished. It contains a large dining-hall, and reading, reception and writing rooms. In the second storey are the billiard room, card rooms, dressing-room and lavatory. There is also accommodation for private dinners. There are four blocks of chambers in the Club House, with servants' houses and stables, and a cottage containing two new sets of chambers has lately been built. Besides these there is a very comfortable cottage, which is assigned to the Honorary Secretary of the Club as his residence. The average number of residents during the season amounts to about 70, which is the full extent of its capacity for accommodating. There are excellent lawn tennis courts belonging to the estate; a covered court for tennis proper, or as it is called at Simla, Canadian Tennis, a game which Lord Dufferin introduced into India; and a bowling alley.

Opposite this court is "The Chalet," a building set apart for the private entertainment by members of the

Club of lady guests, at dinner, luncheon, tea or supper. This adjunct to the Club is a great convenience, and is largely made use of.

Boarding-Houses.

The principal boarding-houses are those at Glenarm, near the Mall; and Abergeldie and Bonnie Moon on Jakho. These are well furnished, and the suites of rooms are comfortable and healthy. The two latter are close to the United Service Club. The rates depend upon the accommodation supplied. These institutions are managed by European ladies, who all do their best to please and make their boarders comfortable. Glenarm is the most popular, as it is situated nearer the Mall.

BANKS, &c.

There are four Banks in Simla.

The Alliance Bank of Simla, Limited, has been some 30 years established here. It is one of the most flourishing financial institutions in the Punjab. Its head office is at Simla, and its Manager is Mr. A. M. Ker, an experienced banker. It is situated near the Club.

The Delhi and London Bank, Limited, has a branch at Simla, its head office being in London. It is situated near Peliti's Hotel (the Grand); and the Post and Telegraph offices. It is at present under the management of Mr. W. C. Rose, a banker of experience in England and the Presidency towns, as well as in Persia.

The Bank of Upper India, Limited, has also a branch at Simla, of which Mr. W. G. Weston is the agent. The head office is at Meerut. This bank occupies Dalziel House, close to the D. P. W. Secretariat. This is an old established Mofussil Bank.

The Punjab Banking Company, Limited, is next to the Post Office. Its head office is at Lahore. Its managing director is well known in the Punjab as an able and successful man of business.

It speaks well for the commercial prosperity of Simla that these four banks should exist and prosper side by side—all possessing the public confidence. Business, however, is still increasing; new shops are yearly being opened; the number of visitors annually becomes greater—and will doubtless still further increase when the Kalka-Simla railway has become *un fait accompli.*

The Municipality.

Municipal Government was first introduced into Simla in December 1851 under the provisions of Act XXVI of 1850, which was extended to the station of Simla by the Governor-General in Council. It is the oldest municipality in the Punjab. At first its corporation was wholly elective, but it was subsequently constituted on a mixed elective and nominative basis. At first it elected its own Chairman and Vice-Chairman, but when the mixed system was introduced the President was for some time nominated by the Local Government, and the Deputy Commissioner was constituted *ex-officio* President. This condition of things lasted till 1876, when the size of the Committee was largely reduced, all elective members being cut out. The Deputy Commissioner still remained *ex-officio* President, and had, as his Secretary and Chief Executive Official, an energetic police officer from Cawnpore belonging to the N.-W. P. Police, the late Mr. H. B. Goad, whose services were lent by the Government to the Municipality. The Deputy Commissioner for the time being was an exceedingly able and energetic officer, and as at the time large sums of money were being spent upon improving the roads, and the general sanitation of the station, an autocratic official was required to carry out these reforms and improvements and to administer the very

defective Municipal Act then in force—that is Act IV of 1873. But after a time this *régime* became too arbitrary. The result was that a large and influential body of house proprietors and ratepayers protested against its continuance, and prayed that the constitution of the Municipality should be reformed, and an elected body be substituted for the oligarchical one created by a purely nominative system. After considerable agitation the above, not unreasonable, prayer was granted and a new Committee, appointed wholly by election, was formed. Many think this Committee worked fairly well. It was headed by a non-official President, selected by the votes of the members; several able civil and military officers of rank joined it, and one of the Civil Surgeons was always elected to a seat on the Committee. This system continued in force till the middle of 1891. The Municipal Committee from 1883 to 1891, consisted of a President who was appointed by election of the members, and twelve members. In August 1891 this constitution was abrogated, and the Committee then was formed of ten members, consisting of a paid President, to be appointed by the Local Government, and who was also to be Town Magistrate, and nine members, of whom two are to be one of the Civil Surgeons and the Executive Engineer, one is to be nominated by the Government of India as its representative, and six are to be appointed by election, three by the electors of the Station ward and three by those of the Bazar ward. This is the present constitution of the Committee. It works under Act XX of 1891, and is a Municipality of the first class. The rules governing the holding of office are as follows :—

Rule I.—Every male inhabitant of not less than 21 years of age who ordinarily resides within Municipal limits and is qualified to vote at Municipal elections, if not disqualified under Rule II.

Rule II.—No one shall be eligible as member of the Municipal Committee who—

(1) is under contract, as regards work to be done for the Municipality; or

(2) receives remuneration out of Municipal funds for services rendered to the Municipality; or

(3) has been proscribed from Government employment; or

(4) has been convicted of any such offence or subjected by a Criminal Court to any such order, as implies, in the opinion of the Local Government, a defect of character which unfits him to be a member; or

(5) is in arrears for six months in respect of any Municipal tax.

Provided that the Local Government may exempt any person or class of persons from the restriction contained in clause (2) of this rule.

There are two classes of voters, namely,—

Class A.—House proprietors, male or female, resident or non-resident, not less than 21 years of age, have for houses outside the Bazar one vote for every Rs. 800 of rent on which house tax is *bonâ fide* paid; and within Bazar limits one vote for every Rs. 25 paid in house or frontage-tax, or in both conjointly.

Class B.—Tenants, male or female, not less than 21 years of age, *outside* the Bazar, have one vote for every Rs. 400, and within Bazar limits one vote for every Rs. 125 of *bonâ fide* rental paid on which house-tax is assessed. Votes on these scales may be given for each house by either one or more *bonâ fide* tenants of such house, whether used as a dwelling-house, office or shop, or partly for one and partly for other of such purposes; but the total votes for any house shall not exceed the number allowed on the gross rental on which house-tax is paid by the proprietor.

Illustrations.—(1) A house outside the Bazar is taxed on a rental of Rs. 1,000, but having been let, is occupied by three *boná fide* tenants, who pay altogether Rs. 1,000 for the season. On this house only two votes can be given by tenants. If the tax rental had been Rs. 1,200, there would be three votes.

(2) Rental means the rent on which taxes are paid. For example: B rents a house for Rs. 800, and on Rs. 680 house-tax is assessed. B does not occupy the house, but transfers the lease to C for Rs. 1,000. C has only one vote, and B has none.

(3) D, a Government clerk, resides in Government quarters for the season and pays Rs. 400 for the same. D has one vote, but the Government has no vote as tenant in respect of the quarters occupied by D.

No one who is in arrears for six or more months in respect of any municipal tax is qualified to vote.

A proprietor, occupying his own house in Simla, and voting in Class A, may qualify also as a tenant and vote as such in Class B.

The Supreme and Local Governments are not entitled to votes in respect of any qualifications they may possess; but persons residing in Government premises and paying rent shall be entitled to qualify as tenants, and shall be subject in this respect to the rules applicable to the tenants of private premises.

Every voter may vote to the full extent of his qualification for every vacant seat. If a voter votes for more candidates than there are vacant seats, the excess shall be reduced by rejecting those to whom he may have given fewer votes, and by lot, if he has given an equal number of votes to each.

A voter may, if he pleases, vote for himself.

The above are the most important provisions of the election rules.

The elections usually take place at the end of June

Most of the bye-laws and a schedule of the various taxes levied in the Municipality are obtainable at the Municipal Office at a small cost.

The following figures show the receipts and expenditure during the year ending 31st March 1901, which is the latest date up to which figures can be obtained:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Receipts including opening balance ...	4,40,000	0	0
Expenditure	4,10,000	0	0

The Municipal finances are therefore in a satisfactory condition.

THE VOLUNTEERS.

In the year 1860 the residents of Simla petitioned the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab for permission to raise a Volunteer Corps. Not only was the proposal sanctioned, but it was highly approved of, as His Honor considered that the situation of Simla rendered the raising of a Volunteer Corps highly expedient.

Early in the following year, an Order respecting the formation of Volunteer Corps in India was issued by the Governor-General. It directed that, for the future, the appointments of Commandant and second in command, should be sanctioned by the Governor-General, and appear in the Gazette, while that of all officers above the non-commissioned rank should receive the sanction of the Local Government. All Volunteer Corps too were to appear in the Army List according to the date on which they were raised.

The Simla Corps is called "The 2nd Punjab Volunteer Rifles"; their motto is "*In defence*"; and their present strength is nearly 400.

Lord W. Hay, the Deputy Commissioner, became the first Commandant, with the late Major Goad as second in command. After the departure of Lord W. Hay, Major-General Innes was appointed Commandant; and

after his retirement Mr. Peterson, Secretary of the Simla Bank, was elected Commandant, and was granted the local rank of Major.

Several influential and energetic officers—Mr. James L. Walker, C.I.E., General (then Colonel) Morton, Colonel Woodthorpe, and Colonel Bisset, C.I.E.—successively held command of this Corps, each contributing to its efficiency and improvement. It is now under the command of Major Chesney, the Secretary to the Government of India in the D. P. W. The Corps was very efficient, but of recent years has somewhat fallen off, principally owing to the Chitral and Tirah campaigns, which drew away a good number of the members. This must always be the case when a number of the volunteers belong to the military offices, and in a place where the residents are migratory.

NATIVE CUSTOMS.

There are not many special customs in the District. The marriage tie is a very loose one amongst many classes of Hindus in the Simla Hills; polygamy is common, and polyandry is not unknown. Wives are transferred for the consideration of a few rupees from one husband to another. In fact, it may be said that the chief characteristics of their manner of life are the extremely simple and primitive existence they lead and their disregard for social morality. "Marriage can hardly be said to be a tie," says the compiler of the *Simla Gazetteer*, "as, if a woman leaves her husband and lives with another man, on the latter paying the former 100 or 200 rupees, called *rit*, the first marriage is *ipso facto* annulled, and the concubinage with the second man becomes a marriage, nor is temporary or occasional infidelity severely condemned by public opinion." Mr. Macnabb, formerly Commissioner of the Amballa Division, writes as follows:—"The Rajputs

and superior Brahmins perform a regular marriage ceremony. Many Brahmins, all the Kanets and Kolis, have the following customs: In Kanâwar and beyond the Bispâ polyandry prevails. In the lower parts of Bashâhr, polyandry is struggling with the custom of *rit*. In the rest of these hills, except when they border on the plains, the custom of *rit* prevails."

Rit is a sort of temporary marriage without any formal ceremony, and is dissolved by the woman taking a new husband, who pays the first husband the money which was paid by him to the first parents—usually Rs. 70. Colonel Wace in his Settlement Report of the Simla District expresses the opinion that *rit* is not a formal marriage at all, but merely the payment usually made in marriage. If the woman goes off with another man, the new husband is required to reimburse his predecessor's outlay! These marriages are of course not recognized by British Courts, nor are the children of such marriages recognized as legitimate for purposes of inheritance. Amongst the Sudhs the custom of *chundavund* prevails. According to this custom the property of a deceased father, who has left two widows, and sons by each, is shared as follows: The property is divided into halves, and each half share is sub-divided equally amongst the sons. Thus, if A dies leaving two widows, B & C, B's sons take one-half of the property in equal shares, and C's sons the other half in equal shares. This custom is pretty general in the Punjab, and has been legally sanctioned under the Punjab Laws Acts.

Mrs. Murray-Aynsley, in her little book describing a trip from Simla to Lahoul, describes a curious custom which prevails at a village called Nirmand, situated about half-way between Nirth and Rámpur on the right bank of the river. She says:—"Every fifteen or twenty years a low caste man is chosen to make the passage across the river in a peculiar manner. He must go through a course of fasting and religious exercises for some time beforehand, and, on the day appointed, in the

presence of a vast number of people assembled to witness the feat, the devotee is placed in a kind of a sling, having heavy sand-bags tied to his legs to weight him. The sling is so arranged as to run freely up and down a slackish rope, which is stretched across the Sutlej, each end of the rope being attached to a high post. When all is ready, the unfortunate victim is let go! He slides down the incline with sufficient impetus to carry him up the other side; but so great is the friction that sometimes the rope catches fire and breaks, and of course the man falls into the river and perishes, for the current is most rapid, and he is heavily weighted. If he succeeds in reaching the opposite side safely, he and his family become most holy persons, need never work for their livelihood, and are entitled to receive a fixed amount of food from the inhabitants of certain villages in the neighbourhood. Apparently no provision is made for the family of the unfortunate man who fails to cross the river and is drowned."

RENTING HOUSES.

Houses are generally let for the season, but this really means from the 1st January to the 31st December, unless the tenant leaves the station sooner and vacates the house. Sub-letting is not allowable except with the previous consent of the owner or his agent, but permission cannot according to law be unreasonably withheld, and it is advisable to insist on this saving clause being inserted in a lease or agreement when a house is taken. The tenant is responsible for keeping roof-gutters, drain pipes, and road drains clear of *débris* and rubbish; and in the case of servants' houses, which are often mud-roofed, the occupier must have them beaten well during the rains to prevent their leaking or collapsing.

Chimneys are required to be cleaned by the tenant twice monthly. The tenant is also responsible for any damage done to premises by fire or otherwise, when occasioned by the negligence of himself or his servants. Reasonable wear and tear is of course excepted. He is answerable for the safety and good condition of all furniture and fixtures made over to him in such condition. The lessor or landlord is bound to make over the house and out-houses in good habitable condition, both wind and water-tight, and to do all repairs necessary to keep them so.

All houses are supposed to be let furnished. Many of them are too often only entitled to be styled so by courtesy, and a tenant is frequently glad to get rid of the rubbish which is too often let with the house as furniture. Lessees and tenants should see that a house is what it professes to be ; that it is supplied with a reasonable amount of household furniture, the usual dressing room crockery and the necessary adjuncts of a bathroom. It is important to note that, as houses are for the most part let in Simla as ready furnished, there is *an implied condition in law* that the house shall be fit for occupation at the time at which the tenancy is to begin, and that it shall be maintained in a reasonably comfortable and healthy condition during the whole term for which it has been let. If this condition is not fulfilled, the tenant is entitled to rescind the contract and quit the house ; and will not be liable for rent. The reason of course is, that the tenant does not get that to which, according to agreement, he is entitled, and this being so, the failure goes to the root of the consideration, moving from the landlord. Consequently the tenant is entitled to rescind the agreement for failure of consideration. This is roughly the settled law of Simla on the subject.

Tenants are held responsible for the observance of all Municipal bye-laws applicable to property they hold, and are usually required by their landlords to pay

the house-tax (that is, the amount the latter is assessed for that tax) though the Municipal Committee holds the owner and not the occupier liable for this payment. The tenant therefore pays the advertized rent, the house-tax, and a water-rate of Rs. 2 per cent. on the annual value of the house. Rents vary according to position and accommodation. Houses situated close to the Mall, on either side, usually rent at a higher rate than those lower down or higher up the sides of the Mall. Residences below or bordering the cart-road are cheaper. The localities in which houses are most in request, besides those in the vicinity of the Mall, are those on Elysium Hill; in the upper part of Kaithu; on the north sides of Peterhoff Hill, and on the south side of the Choura Maidan. Most houses in Chota Simla from which the Mall is at all easily accessible fetch good rents. Rents of medium sized houses range from about Rs. 1,200 to Rs. 2,000, or Rs. 2,500 per annum.

Small and cheap houses in a good locality are very difficult to obtain at all, at any rate at less rent than Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 1,500 per annum.

The rent of a flat in a large house is on an average about Rs. 1,200 to Rs. 1,400 per annum.

The cheapest houses are, as a rule, snapped up by permanent residents, and the season visitor has very little chance of securing one of them. Rents are usually exigible or payable in two moieties. The first is usually due and payable on either the 15th April, or at latest the 1st May, and the second on the 15th September, or the 15th October. The earlier dates are the usual. This is, however, of course, a matter for arrangement. A reduction in the annual rent is usually made when houses are let after the 1st June.

Those who propose to stay a winter at Simla should, if possible, choose houses having a southern aspect. These are usually much warmer than those facing the north.

DOMESTIC SERVANTS.

Visitors intending to make any stay in Simla, should, if possible, bring with them bearers, cooks and khitmutgars. Those obtainable in Simla are rarely good, though the visitor is sometimes exceptionally fortunate and picks up a good hillman. The majority of khansamas and cooks to be obtained at this Sanitarium are season immigrants from the plains, who have been unable to keep their posts there.

Dhobis, sweepers, and bhistis, who make very fair servants, are always readily obtainable. The same may be said of ayahs, especially if they be hillwomen.

Jampanies, or rickshaw men, are easily obtainable. Preference, however, should be given to hillmen—other than Garhwalis. The latter are inclined to be impertinent, especially to unprotected ladies; and though they are fine strong men, and when they like can do any amount of work without tiring, many of them are incorrigible in their habit of petty thieving.

Wages.—A Cook's wages average from Rs. 14 to Rs. 25, according to the description of work required and the rank of the employer (!), which in most parts of India, and especially in Simla, regulates the wages demanded. A fair plain cook will be paid for a small household Rs. 12 per mensem, and will consider himself entitled to more if he is allowed to style himself a khansama.

A Bearer's wages run from Rs. 8 to Rs. 12.

An Ayah's wages vary from Rs. 10 to Rs. 16 a month. Those who are required for service both day and night expect higher pay. Mehtrani-ayahs may be obtained at a lower rate, but they are not favourites. Hillwomen are generally considered the best, as they are willing, and for the most part honest.

Khitmutgars are generally paid at the rate of from Rs. 10 to Rs. 14 per month.

A Masalchi's pay is from Rs. 6 to Rs. 8 monthly.

Bhistis' wages vary according to the size of the family they serve.

Dhobis are paid according to the size of the families that employ them, as well as according to the quantity of the work they are expected to do. Very often a dhobi does the laundry work for more than one family and is obtainable for smaller wages. Bachelors usually pay from Rs. 4 to Rs. 6 monthly.

Jampanies' wages have of recent years considerably increased. They can only be obtained, now, at wages averaging Rs. 7 each. It is usual and advisable to pay one of them an extra rupee to act as Mate: he then holds himself responsible for his subordinates. If Jampanies are very hardworked, that is, are kept out at all hours, both day and night, they are apt to become dissatisfied, and demand higher wages. As a rule, they will not grumble, if not used more than three times a day, and for moderate journeys. Some inconsiderate persons are inclined to treat their Jampanies more as beasts of burden than as human beings, and these must expect both to have difficulty with their men, and trouble in getting them to stay, except at very high wages.

A Sweeper's wages vary from Rs. 6 to Rs. 10.

Syces.—Good syces are rarely obtainable at Simla, and it is most advisable to bring these servants up from the plains.

Grasscutters are to be had at Rs. 7 per mensem. These should be engaged at Simla. The plains' man is of very little use at Simla, as he will not know where to procure grass.

Servants are liable to forfeit 15 days wages if they quit their employ without previous notice of 15 days, and to forfeit all wages that have become due during the month, if they are dismissed for gross misconduct.

INDUSTRIES AND PRODUCE.

There are no reliable statistics of the occupations of the inhabitants of the Simla District, but the bulk of the rural population are of course engaged in agricultural pursuits. The vegetable and fruit supplies of Simla are to a considerable extent procured from Sairi and the valleys and slopes below Jutogh.

The vegetables obtainable are cucumbers, pumpkins, vegetable-marrows, peas, French beans, spinach, tomatoes, radishes, carrots, cabbages, cauliflowers, knollkohls, brinjals (*baigans*), artichokes, Jerusalem artichokes, turnips, celery, mint, asparagus (to a limited extent), rhubarb, onions, garlic, ginger (green), beet-root, lettuce, &c.

The principal fruits grown are apricots, strawberries, wild cherries, medlars, quinces and peaches (of a poor kind). Mulberries and raspberries are also found on the hillsides.

A good deal of this produce also finds its way into the hill stations of Subathu, Kasauli, Dagshai and Solon. The Municipal orchards at Mahásu supply the Simla public and the market with excellent English fruits, propagated from imported grafts; and a fair supply is supplied by the owner of a private orchard near Sipi, the valley below Mashobra. There are also a few fruit-growers within Municipal limits, who dispose of the produce of their orchards and gardens to the Simla public. The "Hazelmere Gardens" are by far the best of these both for fruit and flowers. Excellent mangoes are largely imported for sale from Saharunpore, and also peaches, loquats and lichis. There is a considerable import trade in Alubokhara plums, and Kashmir and Cabul apples and grapes in the season, and guavas, melons (water) and musk-melons, bananas, pomegranates, oranges of all kinds, lemons and limes can also be procured. Cape gooseberries (the *tepari*) grow wild in the vicinity of the station, and are much used in the manufacture of jams.

Nearly all the grain is imported from the plains, that grown in the district barely sufficing to satisfy the wants of the cultivators themselves. Cattle for slaughter for food purposes are chiefly imported—cows and oxen from the Umballa, Meerut and Bulandshahr districts, and sheep from the plains and the interior of the hills. Poultry of all kinds, and such game as wild duck, teal and black partridge are also imported, besides turkeys, geese, guinea-fowl, and the domestic duck. Hill game, such as pheasants, chikor, and wild fowl, are brought from the interior during the open season.

There is a considerable trade in timber, walnut-wood, and box-wood. The timber is chiefly deodar and pine, and is used principally for building purposes. The walnut-wood is largely used for making furniture, and the box-wood for combs, &c.

The prices of food grains, meat, poultry and eggs, compare favourably with those in the plains, due allowance being made for the cost of carriage and the Municipal octroi duty.

Mr. Lockwood Kipling, in a report on the special industries of the Simla District, writes :—

"Not only are there few handicrafts practised in the Simla Hills, but certain of those which would naturally be looked for are absent. When wood is plentiful and a severe winter gives long hours of indoor confinement, wood carving and similar industries usually flourish. But, though a hill village has an outward resemblance to a collection of inferior Swiss chalets, it never has any carving to show, and the common implements of agriculture are ruder in construction and finish than elsewhere.

"The entire absence of wood carving in any form is all the more striking from the fact that images are worshipped in their temples and at their fair times. But there is a worse than Fijian crudity of design and execution in the Hill Divinities. Their temples are

picturesque in mass and interesting from their quaint Mongolian character, but the details are grotesque and barbaric. Basket-making seems to be the only exception."

The slender *ringall* bamboos found in many parts of the district furnish materials for neatly made and serviceable baskets, which, with a curious want of imagination, are all fashioned more or less on the model of the *kilta*, the long basket borne on the back, and throwing the greater part of the weight between the shoulders, as is customary in all mountainous countries. The truth is, there are but few uses for baskets. One or two are necessary to contain the yarn reeds used in the woollen weaving; others made solid with earth and cowdung are handy for grain; but the capacious *kilta* serves most of the simple purposes of rustic life. The smaller articles are often as closely and neatly woven as the Chinese and Burmese baskets, which are afterwards covered with lac, and if there were any demand for fancy baskets, such as ladies' work-baskets and tables, it could be abundantly supplied from the Simla hills.

Good blankets and other woollen clothes are woven in the Bassahir State. Some of the *gudmas* or blankets are soft and thick, and woven in brown and grey stripes; but colour is very seldom used, and one monotonous Isabell tint is the rule. There are no embroideries, nor, as might be expected, is woollen knitting well done. Blanket-weaving of a coarse kind is a domestic occupation. The spinning wheel for woollen yarn is the same as that used for cotton. Shuttles are made at Amritsar, and are sold at fairs and other gatherings, where, however, cheap German small wares are the chief articles exposed for sale. Mr. Coldstream, in a report on the Industries of the Simla District, says that there is "at Subathu a colony of Kashmiri weavers, who manufacture *alwan*, *lohis* or woollen sheets, and so-called Rampur chuddars, which they dispose of either in the Hill stations or at the marts of Amritsar or Loodiana."

Leather work.—In the Bilaspur State, boxes and cigar cases are made in leather, curiously ornamented with a sort of inlay of pieces of the same material, dyed red and green or gilded, set in black grounded leather, and sewn with filaments of peacock quills and horse-hair. Sometimes this embroidery shows a silvery white pattern on a black ground without the addition of the coloured leather inlay. From Nepal a finer sort of this work is occasionally brought, and it seems not unlikely, considering the apparently accidental and purely local character of the work, that it is a relic of Gurkha occupation of these Hills. The embroidery differs essentially from the leather embroidered belts, &c., of the Derajat, and is only practised at Bilaspur, and by one or two people in the Hushiarpur District. Articles of Nepal work are by no means common. They are much more delicately worked and neater in execution than the glove-boxes, &c., offered for sale in Simla. The ordinary leather work calls for no remark; but Mr. Coldstream says that two English firms at Simla, using native labour, turn out very superior saddlery equal to English.

Wood-work.—The absence of wood carving as an industry has already been remarked upon, and though the presence at Simla of a large European community has developed a certain demand for furniture for English use, none of the many carpenters who work in the Simla bazars are hillmen. They come up from the Hushiarpur and Jullundur Districts, bringing with them the decorative notions of the plains. Mr. Lockwood Kipling says that the new bazar :—

"Owing to the English official love of uniformity, is a fair example of their architectural wood-work. The control over buildings, within the limits of the Municipality, is reasonable enough, when it is confined to sanitary considerations and those affecting the public convenience, but it is in the highest degree unreason-

able and injurious, when, as is nearly always the case, it extends to prescribing a uniform and generally hideous plan. The new bazar of Simla being built mostly at one time was, perhaps, a fair occasion for uniformity; but from the artistic point of view its exceeding regularity is to be regretted. The carpenters complain, and not altogether without cause, that their occupation being considered unsightly, they have been relegated to the lower bazar, where Europeans seldom go, and they say that business since this ordinance has fallen off. It cannot be contended that this is a very important trade. They are capable of good work, but year by year the European demand seems to incline more to flimsiness and cheapness. A great number of brackets are made based originally on the well-known Swiss carving and often copied from the fretsaw Arabesques which are in some sort of favour in England, sometimes ebonized, but more frequently coated with varnish. Occasionally a handsome carved mantel-piece is ordered by some amateur; but the Sikh carpenter has a rooted habit of unpunctuality and delay. So the best of which they are capable is seldom seen. Fancy chairs, tables, and book-stands are made, especially a teapoy with three legs, radiating from a globe. Two or three of these tables with black lac polished legs costing about Rs. 3 each, one or two oblong ones at Rs. 5, a few brackets ranging from Rs. 2 to Rs. 15, are to be found in most Simla drawing-rooms, and form indeed the staple of its furnishing. European furniture, specially of Austrian bentwood, is being introduced, and it seems probable that local workmen will be left behind. Racquets, walking-sticks, and khud sticks, which would be called alpenstocks in Europe, share in some shops, with table legs and carved wall brackets, the manufactures of furniture."

In addition to the above industries, of recent years there has been a considerable manufacture of carved and fret-work over-mantels, screens, photograph frames,

Moorish shaped tables, easels, Koran stands, quaint-looking carved "grandfather clock" stands, cut out of walnut and sheesham wood, carved bellows, and writing tables of the nature of *escritoires*. During the last two years or so, a considerable quantity of these articles (with the exception of screens) has been made in the Lukkur Bazar of ivory-inlaid work, for which the Hushiarpur District is celebrated. The trade in tennis racquets and badminton bats manufactured in the Lukkur Bazar has also largely increased, and forms a very lucrative part of the carpenter's business in that part of Simla.

"Mr. Coldstream writes," says Mr. Kipling, "There is a good deal of iron-smelting carried on in the *pargana* of Kotkhai. Metal-working generally is rude and elementary. Small brass idols, which resemble Polynesian figures, are found in the temples and are said to be of local make, though I have been unable to trace them to their founder. A curious brass pen and ink case, contrived to be thrust in the girdle like a dagger, is occasionally seen, but most of the brass in use is brought up from the plains. Some of the necklaces worn by the women are pretty, and there are two or three silversmiths in Simla, who keep a good selection on hand." There are also some pretty bangles and anklets, made by the Simla silversmiths, available at moderate prices.

The milk supply of Simla, till recently, was in the hands of native *gowallas*, many residing within Simla itself; but mostly just out of Municipal limits. There are now no less than four large dairy supply farms, under European management, which yield excellent milk, cream, butter, cream cheeses, and other products of milk; but unfortunately not sufficient to render the public independent of native agency for its milk supply. The lessee of the Alighur Government Dairy Farm has an agency here, which does a good business in butter, sterilized milk and cheeses, which are sold at

moderate rates. He has made an application to Government to be allowed to take up ground in the neighbourhood of Simla for the purpose of farming on a large scale.

The manufacture of jams has been for several years a lucrative Simla industry. Several Europeans do a good business in this branch of trade, which is not confined to Simla, considerable quantities being exported. A great number of regimental messes and clubs are large purchasers. The native dealers in jams, jellies, &c., are also in flourishing condition, even though their wares are somewhat inferior to those prepared by their European competitors. Some people prefer the Simla jams to English manufactured preserves. A very excellent jelly is made out of the petals of rhododendron blossoms. A confection is also made out of the petals of the wild violet, as well as out of those of the dog-rose, which are crystallized with sugar and form sweetmeats called *gùr khand* in the vernacular. A very popular sherbet is also made out of the wild violet petals. These products are also used medicinally.

There are several dealers, chiefly Kashmiri immigrant settlers, who deal in astrakhan, silver fox, snow and ordinary leopard skins, and the skins of bears, pine-martins, tiger cats and other furry animals. The skins are fairly well cured. These dealers also vend stuffed *monàl* pheasants, yâks' tails for chowris, and occasionally a tiger skin. A good trade is also done by them in musk pods, which are brought in from the interior. Crude turquoises are obtainable in Simla, being brought in for sale by Ladakhis and Thibetans. These gems are, however, seldom or never flawless, though often of excellent colour. *Korundum*, containing sapphires of more or less value and of good hue and flawlessness, are often obtainable at cheap rates. Very fine gems have been cut out of these rough stones,

The latter mostly come from the Ladakh and Kulu direction and from Kashmir.

Tea cultivation is carried on at Kotghur, at the Sutlej Valley Tea Estate. Excellent tea is produced; but apparently not in sufficient quantity to establish its merited name for quality. The 50 miles of road between Kotghur and Simla are against the success of tea planting as an industry. Skilled labour is difficult to obtain at this locality, owing to the zemindars being too well off to work for others or do more than till their own fields. Fruit cultivation has been tried at Kotghur with fair success, and a magnificent ribstone pippin tree in the plantation has been known to yield, of itself, a crop which has fetched Rs. 800 in a single season. With capital, energy, and a good knowledge of fruit growing, the culture of fruit at Kotghur should be very profitable. During the autumn there is a fairly remunerative trade with Kulu in apples and pears, the products of English grafts, and there seems no reason why the cultivation of fruit should not becomes a valuable and lucrative industry. If it pays the owners of Kulu orchards to export to Simla, it is obvious that the Kotghur cultivation of fruit ought to be more profitable, if properly worked and managed.

POPULATION.

The Population of Simla, with the neighbouring villages, amounted in 1898, at its most congested season, to 34,501 souls. Of these, a little over 30,000 are resident within Municipal limits.

The European and Eurasian population of Simla may be reckoned, on the average, at about 3,000 to 3,500 souls.

The native population of the town consists chiefly of bunneahs, mainly *Súdhs*, who are immigrants from

the Hushiarpur and Kangra Districts and who leave their families at their homes in those districts, returning to visit them periodically; Sikh carpenters, who come up from the Hushiarpur and Jullundhur Districts, also leaving their families behind them; and cloth merchants from Delhi, Saharunpore and Jagadri in the Amballa Districts. These are all Hindus. There are also hordes of coolies and jampanies from the various Hill States, coming principally from Koti and the territory of the Rajahs of Bilaspur, Mundi, Sukêt and Nahun. A good number of these coolies and jampanies come from the Garhwal District. A few sowcars and mahajuns, who are natives of the Jagadri, Saharunpur and Meerut Districts, come to Simla during the season.

The Mahomedan portion of the population consists principally of members of a Kashmiri colony who have settled here for nearly a century; and butchers and domestic table servants.

There are also a good number of Delhi shopkeepers, who keep provision stores, more or less extensive in their business. Besides these, there are several thousands of Ladakhis, Thibetans and Pathans, who are chiefly employed in building, road-making and excavating.

The agriculturists are for the most part Kanets and Kolis, with a few Rajputs. The Kolis are outcastes and perform any kind of service. The Kanets form the majority of the agricultural population. According to the *Simla Gazetteer*, "They are popularly supposed to be Rajputs, who have lost caste by allowing the practices of ,aying money for a wife and of the second marriage of widows (Karewa)." They have principally come from the Kangra District, where they are very numerous.

"There are four classes of Kanets in the Simla District, who rank higher than the rest and are known by the title of Khúndh. Their names are Bhaimthi, Pashiar, Chhippar, Balesur.

"The other subdivisions of these Kanet tribes in these hills are Kohal, Gashri, Barure, Chakar, Katlerhu, Suraji, Khask, Badni, Charola, Budarwal, Jalanu, Rohal, Katalik, Piroral, Janwal, Dolal, Rohara, Kulharnun, Laddogarh. The Kanets and indeed all classes of the Hill population are a simple-minded, orderly people, quiet and peaceful in their pursuits, truthful in character, and submissive to authority. They hardly require to be ruled, and both in the British portions of the District and the Independent States are left much to themselves.

"Among the Brahmins of the rural portion of the district, one grade called Sasani is superior in popular estimation to the rest. It is from these that the Rajahs and Ranas of the Hill States select their priests. Other Brahmins resort freely to agriculture, to which Sasanis have no objection, if other sources fail. The principal point of distinction between the Sasanis and other Brahmins is said to be, that the former do not allow the remarriage of widows, whereas it is the custom, among other Brahmins, for the widow of a Brahmin to marry the brother of her husband."

LOCAL SPORTS.

All the sports of Simla are carried on in the public pleasure grounds, which are attached to the Annandale gardens. These grounds consist of the Cricket, Polo, and Football grounds, round which runs the Simla Race Course. The course is about half a mile in length and is what is called a left-handed one. It is provided with an excellent pavilion, which was built out of the Gymkhana funds, through the energetic efforts of Lord William de la Poer Beresford, V.C., K.C.I.E., who for a very long time (about twenty years) was the Honorary Secretary and moving spirit of the Simla Gymkhana and Races, and indeed of all the public amusements. The

pavilion furnishes excellent accommodation as a Grand Stand for the use of the subscribers to the Gymkhana and Races, and also serves as a cricket pavilion. Close by is a handsome pavilion, which has been erected by the Simla Municipality for the use and convenience of the public.

The Race Course is a most picturesque spot. It runs round a flat valley, which lies at the base of an amphitheatre formed by the Bentinck Hill, Kaithu slope, the Ridge, and Peterhoff. Two sides of this amphitheatre consist of beautifully wooded hills, clothed with cedars and firs, along the sides of which a shady road, wide enough for ponies and rickshaws and having an easy gradient, runs up to the Mall.

The prospect presented on gala days to anyone standing at the steps which lead down from the Annandale gardens to the race course, and looking across and upwards at the hill rising up behind the pavilion, is extremely gay and picturesque. Every coign of vantage on the hillside is secured by gaily dressed natives, as a place to squat upon and watch the *tamasha* below; while the forest of pines and deodars forms a beautiful background. The whole forms a piece of scenery of such variety of colour, and so bright and animated, that it is well worthy of the attention of any artist.

Considerable sums of money have been spent upon laying out and keeping the cricket ground and race-course in order; but the turf cuts up very quickly, and it is necessary to use a broad strip of coir matting for the cricket pitch. The result is not altogether satisfactory, and sometimes even painful, when the ground gets into that condition when the "wicket kicks," as cricketers say. Since the Polo Club have entered upon the Annandale plateau, it goes without saying that, as the game is played across the cricket ground, matters have become worse, though every endeavour is made to preserve the cricket-pitch by covering it with tarpaulins and coir-matting. The result is, however, unsatisfac-

tory to both lovers of polo and cricket. The dark tarpaulins and matting cause the polo ponies to shy and their hoofs cut up the turf. It seems a pity that some other arrangement cannot be made or place discovered to accommodate polo players, who are by no means a very numerous section of the Simla community.

There are usually two Race Meetings during the year. The Spring or Summer Races take place during the last week of May and early part of June. The second meeting takes place about the end of September or early part of October, just before the exodus to the plains, and when the number of visitors to Simla has been increased by Durga Pujah excursionists, who flock up to the Summer Capital from Calcutta, Tirhoot, and many parts of the N.-W. P.; while there is also an incursion of military officers, who run up to Simla for the last ten days' leave that they can get, before the commencement of the drill season on the 15th October.

The Durand Football Tournament is annually played off at Annandale in September, and attracts a great concourse of lovers of that game.

Being a good level area, the Annandale ground is also utilized by the Officer Commanding the Simla Volunteer Rifles, as a place for manœuvring his battalion on grand field days. These Volunteer sports prove most attractive to the Simla public, and the Annandale grounds are thronged by thousands of gaily dressed people, both European and native, who crowd down from all sides, from 6 A.M. to 9 and even 10 P.M.

The Gymkhana Club have their weekly amusements here, ordinarily on Saturday afternoons, commencing from about the 15th April and continuing until the setting in of the rains, during which tent-pegging, tilting and racing are out of the question. About the first week of September, the Gymkhana sports are again resumed and continue till about the 20th October, when the departure of visitors, and of the Government of India, to the plains, puts an end to the season.

SHIKAR.

While writing on the subject of sports, attention should be drawn to the fact that, whenever a shikar party goes in search of game, it is advisable to be armed with a *parwaná*, signed by the Deputy Commissioner, as Superintendent of Hill States, and addressed to the officials of the Native State it is proposed to visit, giving permission to shoot in the locality named therein. Without such a *parwaná* the *shikari* may come into collision with the Rajah's or chieftain's people and petty officials, and inconvenience and trouble may result. Care should be taken to avoid shooting pea-fowl. There are some tracts of country in the neighbourhood of Simla, where the villagers do not object to these birds being shot. But in the majority of the States there is a strong religious objection to their being killed or even molested. Where this objection exists it should be scrupulously respected; and in any case, before shooting them, either unmistakable proof should be obtained that the villagers of the locality do not object, or an official assurance that shooting such game is permissible should be procured. The best course is to refrain from shooting this kind of game entirely. It undoubtedly offends the religious prejudices of the majority of the villagers of these Hills, and a *fracas* with ignorant villagers is neither heroic nor profitable. Very often, too, the British subject gets the worst of it, in cases which come before the Courts at Simla; and if he escape with a whole skin or unbruised body, he will be very fortunate. The simple hill people are, as a rule, very civil and obliging, and are always amenable to the persuasion of that important agency, *bakshish*. If well treated, the hill men and agriculturists are excellent fellows. They enter most thoroughly and with the utmost zest and enjoyment into the spirit of *shikar* that inspires their employers, and assist with the most untiring perseverance. The possession

of the *parwaná* is in any case an important thing, as it often acts like a talisman in removing difficulties and securing assistance.

Attention may be here directed to the fact that Act XX of 1887 (*The Wild Birds Protection Act*) applies to the Simla Municipality, and it will perhaps be useful to publish below the rules made by the Municipal Committee of Simla, under section 3 of that Statute, which have the force of law within the limits of that Municipality.

RULES.

"1. The expression "Wild Bird," for the purpose of Act XX of 1887, in its application to the Municipality of Simla, shall include the following:—

"Pheasants."
1. "White-crested Kalij,"—Native names: "Kukra-Murghi," "Kulsa," "Kalesha."
2. "Koklass"—Native names: "Koklás," "Plásh."
3. "Chir"—Native names: "Chair," "Chir," "Cheer," "Lânj."
4. "Moonal"—Native names: Male—"Munal;" Female—"Bodar."
5. "Western Tragopan"—Native name: "Jaju."

"Partridges."
1. "Black Partridge"—Native name: "Kala Titar."
2. "Common Hill Partridge"—Native name: "Ban Titar."
3. "Chùkâr"—Native names: "Chakor, "Chakra."
4. "Pea-fowl"—Native name: "Môr."
5. "Jungle-fowl"—Native name: "Làl Murghi."

"2. The expression "Animals of Game" for the aforesaid purposes shall include the animals of game

other than birds to which provisions of Section 3 of Act XX of 1887 have been made applicable by the Punjab Government Notification No. 834, dated 21st July 1890, *viz.* :—

"Sambha"	"Máhá Sámbar."
"Barking deer" ...	"Kákar."
"Gooral"	"Ghorl," "Ghol."
"Serow"	"Aimú."
"Hare"	"Khargosh," "Pharlu."
"Musk deer" ...	"Kastura," "Mushk-náfa."

"3. The breeding season of the wild birds and animals of game, for the aforesaid purposes, shall extend from 15th March to the 1st September, inclusive, in each year.

'4. During the breeding season, no person shall possess or sell, within the Simla Municipality, any wild bird or animal of game, recently killed or taken, or import into the said Municipality the plumage of any wild bird, or the fur or skin of any animal of game: provided that this prohibition shall not extend to wild birds or animals of game proved to the satisfaction of the Court to be possessed, or to have been sold, as pets; or to stuffed specimens of such wild birds or animals.

"5. Any person convicted of a breach of Rule 4 shall be punished with a fine, which may extend, in the case of a first offence, to Rs. 5, for every wild bird or animal of game, in respect of which, or of the plumage or fur or skin whereof, the breach of rule has been committed; and in the case of a subsequent offence, to Rs. 10 in respect of every such bird or animal, or fur, or plumage, or skin."

No true sportsmen will oare to shoot game during the breeding season. The publication of the above rules will, therefore, it is hoped, be useful. Since the rules have been enforced, game has increased and multiplied very considerably, and if the Hill Chiefs

maintain these game laws strictly, as they have been desired by the Government to do, the shooting grounds in the vicinity of Simla will ere long afford excellent sport and good bags. Not very long ago, the sportsman would toil all day and hardly get a sight of a bird, let alone a shot at one. This is gradually changing, and now, even in the forests close to Simla, pheasants and jungle fowl are to be met with and can be shot without very much trouble.

LOCAL EXCURSIONS.

There are many lovely retreats in the neighbourhood of Simla well suited for picnics. The following are the most popular, and are all within easy reach of the station.

Annandale Gardens.—These are the public gardens of Simla. They contain several large nurseries and several hothouses. They are well kept and supply a considerable quantity of the flowers that are required for floral decoration for both private and public entertainments. The gardens are also fairly stocked with English apple, apricots, and other fruit trees. The whole is worked by the Municipality under the supervision of a Superintendent, who is also in charge of the municipal orchards at the catchment area, below Koofrie and Mahasu. Annandale and its surrounding hill slopes are very favourite picnic resorts.

There are several roads down to Annandale, the principal of which is generally known as the 'long road.' It starts from the Mall, midway between the Chaura Maidan and the D. P. W. offices, and is a beautiful walk of about two miles.

The Glen.—Behind the ridge which encloses Annandale on the west is situated "The Glen," a long picturesquely wooded ravine, with delightful grassy slopes. A rivulet flows through and is fringed down

to the very edge with magnificent trees, which afford shelter from the rays of the sun. Amid the wild scenery of this "Glen," is an object of interest, "the dripping rock," through which water percolates, producing an exceedingly pretty effect, and reviving the thirsty moss and ferns in its crystal-like course.

The best time of the year to visit the Glen is after the rains, when the stream above referred to is pretty full, and the surrounding verdure is at its best. Visitors should, however, beware of leeches, which are then plentiful. Care should also be taken when watering horses at the Glen stream, for, otherwise, leeches creep up the unfortunate animals' nostrils, and are sometimes very difficult to remove. Dogs, too, should be carefully examined after a trip to this spot, and any leeches that may be found about them should be promptly removed, as otherwise the poor victims may suffer considerably. *A propos* of dogs, visitors are advised not to let their pets stray far from them, at any time, when in the vicinity of the Glen, especially towards dusk; as they may possibly be snapped up by the wily leopard, which is still occasionally on the prowl in this locality.

Prospect Hill, is situated at the Jutogh entrance to Simla. It commands an extensive view, on one side, of Simla itself; on the other, of the innumerable narrow valleys and deep gorges, through which many a mountain stream flows down to meet the Gumber, and of the low-lying ridges with smiling fields and small hamlets lying dotted about the old road to Sairi, Hurripur, Subathu and Kasauli. Prospect Hill belongs to Government and, indeed, is part of the Viceregal Lodge estate; but through the courtesy of the Viceroy for the time being, it is thrown open to the public, and is a favourite resort for picnics, tiffins and afternoon-teas. Perhaps the finest view of Viceregal Lodge is from this hill. The grounds are well kept, and the only condition required to be observed is "not to pick the flowers" that adorn

various parts of the Hill. Rough garnets have been found at the summit of Prospect Hill, but not of sufficient quality or in sufficient quantity to be worth working up. It is said that a few rubies have been picked up in this locality, but certainly none have been found very recently, and it is quite possible that the garnet may have been mistaken for the ruby.

Tara Devi Hill and Temple.—Those who wish to get a shot at *gurral*, will occasionally be able to do so on this hill, and frequently in the season, pheasants, jungle-fowl and *chikor*, or hill partridges, are also here obtainable. At the summit of the hill, from which an extensive view of the surrounding country can be had, there is a small temple. The forest, which clothes the western and northern slopes of Tara Devi, affords opportunity for a pleasant ramble along umbrageous pathways and *pagdandis*, and there are many secluded and shady corners for picnics. This hill is approached by the cart road, and is about 6½ miles from Simla,—an easy, but alas too often a very dusty ride or drive. These drawbacks notwithstanding, it is frequently the haunt of ardent picnickers. The summit of Tara Devi Hill is always very breezy, often too much so for most people; but for those who revel in a good fresh blow, and enjoy a gale, this is an additional attraction.

Jakko.—The summit of the Jakko mountain is worthy of a visit at all times of the day. In the early morning may be seen the glorious spectacle of the sun rising over the everlasting snows. At day-break, the snowy range appears shrouded in a misty mantle of grey neutral tints, which give place to glowing hues of pink and crimson lights as the sun darts above the towering peaks of glistening snow. None but the very energetic sightseer, however, attempts this expedition. At mid-day, the mighty ranges of hills lie bathed in the golden light of day; Simla is spread beneath; dwellings are dotted over hill and dale far down the mountain sides,

Kussowlie and Subathu are visible in the far distance, and sometimes, beyond all, can be seen the blue plains. Lastly, as the sun is dropping down in the west, the panorama is again wonderfully grand. The long level rays of the setting sun seem to pierce through and between the dark ranges of the lower mountains, defining each range with a curious dusky light, while towards the north and east the fields and slopes of snow on the Snowy Range are delicately tinted with the pink hue, called by travellers in the Alps the "Alpine Glow."

There is a temple on the highest point of Jakko, and the hut of a fakir, whose supposed sole temporal employment is the feeding of monkeys. These active little creatures, headed by their "Maharaja," come trooping up in hundreds at the call of the fakir, swaying themselves from one yielding branch to another of the surrounding trees. This is the favourite spot for picnics. These Jakko monkeys are migratory, and many of them have been identified during the cold weather roaming about the neighbourhood of Deoband, in the Saharunpore District of the N.-W. P., and bands of them may be seen trooping up Simla-wards over the Sewaliks and across country during the early part of spring, by no means so sleek and fat, as when seen on Jakko's top during the Simla season.

The Temple which the fakir serves is dedicated to Hunuman, the Monkey God, and profits, not a little, by the visits of Hindu chiefs and magnates to the Temple; while the old fakir reaps a fair revenue of *bakshish* from picnickers, and other European visitors, who are bound "to do" Jakko and see the monkeys.

There is a good road running round Jakko, 5 miles in length.

Mushobra, now quite a suburb of Simla, and very possibly shortly to be incorporated with that Hill station, as part of a Government scheme for its ex-

tension, is well worth a few days' visit, but even a ride out there and back again, for an *al fresco* meal or a roam about the woods, amply repays the trouble.

The Gables hotel offers accommodation for a limited number of guests. Plain but well-cooked fare can be obtained, and the rooms are clean. It is quite close to the grounds of the *Retreat*, soms of the lovely footpaths through which are opened to the public.

The fine estate (Villa Carignano) belonging to Cavalier F. Peliti, the well-known Indian caterer, also affords excellent accommodation for visitors, who wish to enjoy for a day or two the crisp, fresh air which blows over this part of the Mushobra ridge. Unfortunately this accommodation is reserved for the benefit of the residents at the Grand Hotel at Simla.

Should the Simla extension scheme above alluded to be sanctioned by the Governments of India and the Punjab, the new suburb will be connected with the Simla water-supply system, and thus one of its principal drawbacks will be removed, and in the course of a few years, as sites are made available, buildings will be largely extended and thus considerable relief will, it is hoped, be afforded to the present congested state of the Sanitarium—a state which the establishment of Railway communication with Kalka will probably tend to aggravate. Anyhow, Mushobra, placed under a system of approved hygienic and conservancy regulations, and having its roads lighted, kept in repair, and improved, ought to develop into a very healthy, pleasant, and prosperous suburb.

Sipi.—In the valley below Mushobra, there is a lovely little natural plateau, surrounded by lofty mountains, almost the whole extent being covered and overshadowed by magnificent Cedars (*cedrus deodara*)—local name Kailo—of great girth, the growth probably of centuries. These trees tower to a great height; and through their spreading branches the mid-day sun

scarcely penetrates. A small stream of clear cold water flows across the centre of the plateau, while moss-covered mounds invite the visitor to repose in the shade.

In the valley there is a temple dedicated to the Goddess of the grove, for these hill people always select some spot remarkable for sylvan beauty, or some lofty solitary mountain top, on which to erect a place to be held sacred to their deities. A Hindoo festival is held annually about the middle of May—"The Sipi Fair"—which is very popular with the whole population of the surrounding districts, and to which flock the people of Simla, both European and Native, and of all classes. This festival has been held in this valley for generations past. The following extract from a letter which appeared in the *Englishman* some years back gives an excellent account of this Fair :—

"The Hill Chieftain, the Rana of Koti, in whose territory lies Sipi, is the presiding genius of the occasion, a man who prides himself on being a Rajput of ancient lineage. He comes with his petty court to perform the ceremonies prescribed by his religion, to sacrifice to the deity of the sacred spot and to receive in State all visitors, both high and low. By the term Fair, it must be understood, this one is not like the usual Fairs held in the East, for the purpose of barter and sale of merchandise, but it is a gathering of the people, to give themselves up to pleasure and enjoyment. A regular carnival, in fact, it is, the religious ceremonies merely preceding the fun. Swings, roundabouts, or merry-go-rounds, dancing, shooting with bows and arrows, munching sweetmeats and buying the worthless 'fairings' of Manchester-made jewellery, within late years provided by enterprising Delhi merchants, form the staple of the diversions indulged in by the primitive inhabitants of these hills. Instead of putting on their 'filthiest clothes,' as mentioned by a correspondent to a contemporary journal, the people

going to this fair, for days beforehand, prepare new dresses, as far as they can afford them, all of the brightest hues, and with clean laughing faces, appear thoroughly to enjoy this holiday. The gala dresses, the curious ornaments of the women, their almond-shaped sparkling eyes, overflowing with fun and merriment, their picturesque and quaint costumes, form many a glowing scene in the ever-changing crowd, which has more than once been taken as a theme by word painters and has been frequently photographed and reproduced on paper and canvas by many an artist.

"It is only within the last twelve or fourteen years that this fair has been regularly attended by the English. In 1863, Sir Hugh Rose, with a large train of distinguished visitors, honored the fair, and in 1869, Lord and Lady Mayo graced the festive scene, to the infinite delight of the little Rana. Since which time, year by year, the Viceroys and the Commanders-in-Chief, accompanied by the heads of the Simla society and followed by most of the English inhabitants, have continued the good example.

"It is true, for a cynic or a sybarite, it is not pleasant to descend a steep hill in company with a jostling throng of natives, bent on pleasure; but the novelty of the scene and the beautiful grand scenery of the hills, through which the road lies, fully repay the lover of nature and the true artist, for all the fatigue entailed by the ascent which has to be made in returning from a visit to the Sipi Fair."

The Sipi Fair still continues to attract European visitors from Simla. The Government House party and all the *élite* flock to the valley on the appointed day now, as they did in 1869. Yearly they vote it a bore, and yet they go. Breakfast and lunch parties are organized, and so much is it looked on as *de rigeur* to visit the Fair that a local holiday is proclaimed. There is an idea afloat that dusky beauties, maidens from the surrounding hill districts, are brought to the Fair for

sale; that they are arranged row upon row, waiting for gallant young men to throw to them the handkerchief of their choice, or to pay their rupees and take their wives. Sipi, however, is not like the "May Fair" of London. The dusky beauties are there, but they are the respectable wives and sisters of the hill people, enjoying an annual holiday, bright in their gayest garments and jewellery. This idea, however, that the women have been collected to be sold to husbands, has become so deeply rooted, though without the smallest foundation, that it is almost impossible to eradicate it.

Mahasu.—The Mahasu range, with the forests that adorn it, also has some beautiful and delightful spots. Below the Mahasu ridge are the Simla water-supply springs, which after passing through various filter beds empty themselves into the main pipe line. The most distant of these springs is about 11 to 12 miles from Simla. A fairly level and well-kept road, about 5 or 6 feet in width, runs over the pipe line, and is traversible by jinrickshaws for nearly its whole length, if care is taken by the jampanis employed. About 9 miles from Simla is situated a pretty rest-house belonging to the Municipal Committee. Permission to occupy it can generally be obtained from the Secretary of the Municipality, provided the premises are not required for use by the Municipal or D. P. W. staff employed on the water-supply project and pipe line, or by the Superintendent of the Municipal orchards. This permission, it should be noted, is not claimable as of right, as some think; but it is never unreasonably refused. An excursion to these head-works is well worth taking; not so much on account of their affording any special points of Engineering interest, but because of the beautiful landscapes to be seen all along the journey.

The Municipal orchards at Mahasu are deserving of a visit. These furnish an excellent supply of choice

apricots, apples, pears, plums and peaches, in their respective seasons. The plantation also provides the market with excellent cooking rhubarb and a small supply of asparagus, cooking apples, plums and greengages. Fruit during the season can also be purchased by visitors on the spot, at moderate prices.

The forests about the municipal bungalow furnish fair shooting; but leave to shoot through them must be first obtained from the Municipality. The charge for a permit is Rs. 5 a day.

The game to be found in these forests are chiefly chikor, pheasants, a few kakkur or barking deer, some gurral and musk deer. A good many leopards roam about these woods, but are rarely shot, as they warily keep out of the sportsman's way. During the fruiting season, and when the maize crop is ripe, bears come down from the higher hills and try to get a midnight feed of fruits or corn. Several attempts have been made to shoot these bears, but they usually most provokingly manage to slink away, just as the sportsman thinks his prey is secure; and once the animal is on the retreat it cannot easily be tracked, or made to break cover.

There is a pleasant ride or walk down to the Simla Water-Works Pumping Station at the *Charôt ka nullah.* The water, which runs down this nullah, is collected in reservoirs, into which it is passed through excellent filter-beds. It is pumped up from these reservoirs by powerful Worthington pumps into the Sanjaoli reservoir, which, with the reservoir on the Ridge, feeds all the water mains and subsidiary pipes, which form the water distributing system of Simla and its suburbs. These engines are very powerful. The pipe-line now delivers about 200,000 gallons of filtered water daily to Simla. During a season of winter drought, or when the late approach of the Monsoon causes a diminution of the outflow from the springs, considerable inconvenience has been caused to the Simla population; indeed a

water-famine scare is quite common in the Station. To remedy this and to ensure the provision of an effectual and adequate water-supply of 8 gallons per head daily for a population of 40,000, two new sources of supply have been added. The first provides a lower level pipe-line, which catches the overflow from the springs at the old catchment area and conveys it into a new storage reservoir, constructed at the *Charôt ka nullah*. The other provides a huge storage reservoir, at a place on the old pipe-line called Sêog, which will hold about 4,000,000 gallons, a supply of filtered water sufficient to meet any scarcity that is likely to occur.

These projects for the improvement of the water-supply have cost between seven and eight lakhs of rupees, of which half will probably be contributed by the Governments of India and of the Punjab.

ROUTES IN THE DISTRICTS.

Naldera.—Below Mushobra, and lower down the Mushobra Ridge, is the small plateau called either Nal Deo or Nal Dera. It used to be a favourite Camping-ground of the late Lord Lytton, while he was Viceroy. Carpeted, as it is, with a fine, springy turf, it furnishes a delightful camping-ground. His successor, the Marquis of Ripon, preferred Wild Flower Hall, a house prettily situated near Chirâbrâ, below Kufri and "The Retreat." The last-named property, at Mushobra, has since been purchased by Government as a country-house for the Viceroy, who often escapes thither for a week end from the "despotism of despatch boxes" so wittily mentioned in Ali Baba's "*Twenty-one Days in India.*" Naldera still remains a favourite resort, and Golf Links have recently been added to its attractions

Bhujji.—A very pleasant excursion from Simla is that to Sunni, the capital of the Bhujji State, lying on the left bank of the Sutlej, about 22 miles from Simla.

The easiest route is by Mushobra, past Villa Carignana, and along the ridge through Naldera. The road is not good enough for rickshaws, but is quite practicable for jhampans and ponies. Naldera is a small collection of bunniahs' huts, about half-way between Mushobra and the point where the road, following the ridge, turns down the north face of the hill.

Before reaching Naldera, the road passes through two places, where the rocks crop out of the soil in a curious fashion. They are mostly sharp-pointed, and appear to have been thrust up through the surface of the ground. These rocks have been hollowed out very smoothly in parts, evidently by the action of rain on a composition of some material, such as chalk, softer than that forming the mass of the rock. The road here has to be traversed carefully, for these stones make walking difficult, and in wet weather the clay is very slippery. Less than a mile beyond the Bazar is a quaint little temple, which is worth inspection; and from the top of the pine-covered knoll a distant view of the Sutlej river and of the town of Sunni can be obtained.

Continuing along the ridge, the road reaches a bunniah's hut, where a rough bungalow has been built for the use of travellers as a half-way house, but it should not be used, if it can be avoided, as it is destitute of everything but a dirty bed, a broken chair and a crazy teapoy, and the chimney smokes most horribly!

From this place the road turns abruptly down the north face of the hill, and by a very steep zig-zag reaches Basunthpur, a large village having extensive fields, and possessing a temple, with hideous idols. This temple is situated under a fine grove of trees. The road here divides into two, that to the left being the one leading to Sunni.

For a short distance more the road continues to be steep, but after crossing a stream, it becomes fairly level and cool, being well overshadowed by trees. For about a mile it passes through a gorge, but the hills on the

right then abruptly recede, their place is taken by extensive fields, and beyond the distant roar of the river can be faintly heard. Five miles have yet to be travelled before Sunni is reached.

The bungalow at Sunni, built for the use of travellers, is situated well away from the town and within a stone's throw of the river. It is double-storied, but has little accommodation. The upper floor consists of only one room, but there are one large and two small rooms and two bath-rooms in the lower storey.

A temple stands not a hundred yards from the bungalow, and here an annual fair takes place in September. Just opposite the bungalow is a "Drea" crossing. "Dreas" are inflated skins, by means of which the natives are ferried over the river. The "Drea-walla" lies across the middle of the skin, paddling with his feet and holding a small wooden blade in his right hand. The person to be ferried across sits on the paddler's shoulders, and has to keep quite still to avoid a ducking, for it is almost as easy to overbalance the inflated skins, as to topple over an egg. Considering the crazy nature of the craft used, it is astonishing that there are not more accidents. These Drea-wallahs can drive the skins across the river in high flood, when the most powerful swimmer would be helpless in the current.

The chief attractions of Bhujji are the hot sulphur springs. The springs are actually situated in Suket territory, across the river. They are about four miles from Sunni, and near the bridge on the Kulu Road. Visitors from the far interior come to these springs, which are credited by the natives with magical healing properties. They are certainly good for removing fatigue after a long walk, or a stiff day's shooting. When a hole is scraped in the sand the hot water oozes in, and different temperatures can be obtained with a little management. The springs, which are a few feet from the bank of the river, are in no way covered in, but a small tent can easily be pitched over

any of them if thought desirable. People suffering from rheumatism and from scorbutic or cutaneous affections find relief by bathing here.

A few supplies can be obtained in the Sunni Bazar, such as mutton, potatoes, rice, ghee, and milk; but it is best not to rely on always obtaining these, but to take out one's own commissariat from Simla.

The Shali.—This bold peak, seen from the Ridge appearing above the Mashobra range, seems to challenge one to scale its rugged sides. It is 9,413 feet above sea-level at its summit, and therefore considerably over a thousand feet higher than Jakko: and from the stream in the valley at its base it is a tough piece of climbing.

There is no road, practically, for ponies, or even mules, all the way to the top; but ponies can be taken to the village of Tiloosh, about two-thirds of the distance up. The shortest way to the Shali is to turn down the Mashobra Range at the Bazar, and proceed by the road which leads through the Sipi Fair ground, and down to the stream at the base of the hill.

The route is very steep and far from comfortable for riding, as it is ill-kept and, beyond Sipi, is only a wide pathway. Up the Shali there is a broad track, which was made some nine or ten years ago, when a big shooting party was organised for the Maharaja of Patiala and the Maharaj Rana of Dholpur; but it has not been attended to since, so its present condition is not difficult to imagine. Moreover, it consists in places of a series of steps, which make it the more difficult to traverse. There is, however, nothing to bar a pony's progress as far as Tiloosh, which is the usual camping ground for shooting parties, and close around which fairly good shooting of pheasant and chikor can be had. The former are chiefly found in a thick clump of pine trees to the west of the village, and the latter in either direction along the bare hill

sides, or early in the mornings in the adjoining fields. At certain seasons rock-pigeons, too, can be shot among some of the cliffs near the village, but the shooting is getting as scarce as the object. The further side of the hill is the place to go to, though from Tiloosh to the summit the ascent is stiffest and the road is worst. A grove of holly oak on the way shelters some fine large pheasants; and a little further on a perpendicular wall of rock seems to hopelessly bar all further progress. The pathway, however, skirts the obstacle, by proceeding along the hillside, and is fairly level for a short distance before turning up to a shoulder of the hill by a watercourse, which is here the boundary between the State of Bhujji (within whose confines the Shali lies) and that of Madhán. This little climb almost exhausts one's endurance; but after accomplishing it, very little ground remains to be traversed before the summit is reached. Right at the top, the ambitious natives have reared a temple, where sportsmen are expected to sacrifice a goat to the presiding deity, and so to ensure success in their efforts. A magnificent view of the snows, and a glimpse of the distant Sutlej, can be here obtained, and a substantial meal can be done justice to. The north face of the hill is covered by a dense forest, and shooting abounds. Bears, leopards, an animal called by the native 'Aymoo' (the serow), musk deer, kakur, and ghorral are found, and pheasants of various kinds are plentiful; but as the cover is so thick, a large number of beaters are necessary to secure good sport.

Having got over the stiffest part of the walk to the lake, which lies behind the smaller Shali, it would be a pity for the visitor not to go on and see it, especially as very few people are even aware of its existence, and fewer still have actually been there. From the summit of the Shali, it takes the pedestrian about four hours of easy walking to reach this lake. The road passes through scenery of great grandeur, along a ridge running parallel

to the Shali, as far as the village of Imbri ; it then dips down to the valley between, along which it continues, in places through very narrow gorges, until just before the lake is reached. Here the hills form a wide basin, containing extensive ricefields, watered by a stream, which then spreads out and forms a large body of water, about six hundred yards long by three hundred yards wide. Of course the lake varies in size according to the season of the year—being largest immediately after the rains, and in the month of May or June in a dry season being sometimes quite dry. There is a village called Karealee on the banks of the lake and its inhabitants hold the water to be sacred, and prevent Europeans from so much as laving their hands in it. They themselves, however, are not at all backward in polluting it to the best of their ability. Should the lake be defiled (!) a goat will at once be demanded to propitiate the Naiad or goddess who presides over or in its waters.

The return to Simla can be made by continuing along the hills towards the south. This route leads out on to the stream flowing between the Mushobra Range and the Shali at a point about six or eight miles lower down than it was crossed in the ascent. About half an hour's walk from the stream brings one to Basanthpur, which lies on the road between Simla and Sunni ; or a return may be made to Simla by the road which has been described elsewhere.

The Shali is situated in the Bhujji State, and a shooting pass should be obtained from the Rana of that State if sport is desired. There are no bungalows or rest-houses of any sort on the route, and tents must always be taken by the traveller.

Supplies of wood and milk can be had at any of the villages along the route by giving previous warning. It is best to obtain the services of a chaprassi from the Rana to make arrangements for these things. All food supplies must be taken out as they cannot be obtained on the trip.

Narkhanda.—No visitor to Simla, who has a week to spare, should leave the station without making a trip to Narkhanda, the one place in the neighbourhood where a good view of the shows can be obtained. The journey may be made in a dandi or a rickshaw; on a pony or, for good pedestrians, on foot. As the trip cannot be comfortably made under seven or eight days, some little preparation is necessary. Coolies should be engaged to carry bedding, clothing, and a basket of provisions. At each halt is a dâk bungalow, where mutton, fowls, eggs, milk and soda water can be purchased, and in which there is a *khansama* to arrange for meals. At Fagu, the first halt, indeed, all that one can reasonably expect in the eating line, can be obtained. But for the rest of the journey it is advisable to provide bread, butter, tea or cocoa, wine or spirits, cheese, a few tins of fish, preserved meats, and biscuits.

On horseback the journey can easily be done in two days, but for rickshaws or pedestrians it is better to make a three days' trip of it. The first night should be spent at Fagu, twelve miles distant from Simla. From there to Theog, where a late breakfast or tiffin may be had, is only five miles, and a further twelve miles to Matiana can be covered in the afternoon. From Matiana to the end of the trip is only eleven miles.

Leaving Simla the route is along the Mushobra road—running from the Ridge, past 'Snowdon,' and through the village of Sanjaoli. After passing the toll-bar, which is a little distance beyond the tunnel, the route leaves the Mushobra road and runs by a steep ascent to Chirabra, situated on the crest of the ridge at the sixth mile-stone from Simla. Here the route winds in and out, along the northern side of the hill, through a beautiful forest of massive pines, until the village of Mahasu is reached, at an elevation of nearly 9.000 feet. From Mahasu the route in more open, and runs along a stony path on the northern side of the Mahasu

range, affording a beautiful view of the extensive valley below. The dak bungalow at Fagu is picturesquely situated, facing the north-east, at the foot of a steep ridge rising abruptly to 700 feet above it. From the top of this ridge a very fine view of the snowy range can be obtained.

From Fagu the road is rough and stony, passing through the village of that name along the southern face of a succession of bare ridges. Below the road are a number of deep valleys, with cultivated fields arranged in terraces on their sunny slopes. A mile from Theog the road divides. The path to the left is recommended, as it is more level, and passes through a young plantation of trees which afford an agreeable shade after the glare of the rocky path from Fagu. After leaving Theog the path again leads through a beautiful forest of oak, holly and pines, winding round to the left under the steep sides of the hill, and ascending gradually until the crest of the ridge is reached. Behind, across the thickly wooded valley, can be seen the Theog bungalow, nearly hidden by trees. From this ridge the road descends gradually to the Matiana dâk bungalow, which is situated beyond the village of that name in a commanding position at the head of a deep valley. The road to Narkhanda winds to the left along the almost perpendicular face of a rocky cliff until it crosses by a cleft in the ridge. It then turns abruptly to the left affording a beautiful view of the valley beyond, across which stand out Mount Huttu and the Narkhanda ridge. The path is now well wooded. It passes in sight of several villages situated on the cultivated slopes of the valley, while the hills on the opposite side rise black and sombre to a height of eleven or twelve thousand feet.

The bungalow at Narkhanda is built just under the crest of a ridge running east and west, facing the long range of snows and with nothing to intercept the view. Below lies the deep valley in which Kotghur is situated,

and beyond it rise the precipitous cliffs of the Sutlej valley. On the left Mount Huttu, clothed with dense forest, rises to a height of nearly 11,000 feet—1,500 feet above Narkhanda itself and five miles distant. The view from its top is exceedingly fine, commanding, as it does, an extensive view over the valleys in the neighbourhood to the snow-capped mountains across the Sutlej.

Rampur.—Rampur, the capital of Bussahir, may be visited; it is two marches from Kotgurh, which has already been described. To reach it, the traveller has to pass through Nerit, on the banks of the Sutlej, and about 3,087 feet above sea-level. The march to Nerit is therefore usually very hot and trying, as the road descends for eleven miles, along a winding road, from Kotghur (which stands at a level of 6,634 feet). The scenery at Nerit is grand and wild. The river Sutlej flows, or rather rolls, by, leaping and bounding, as it rushes through the narrow rocky channel in which it is confined. The heat of the route and the fatigue of the descent, however, prevent one from fully enjoying the scenery. The route from Nerit to Rampur, twelve miles, runs along the banks of the Sutlej, past the large village of Dutnuggar. The confluence of the Kagri and Suley rivers is passed near Rampur, and here is situated the Winter Palace of the Bussahir Rajah, a very convivial, but wholly inefficient Hill Chief, whose State is administered by his heir-apparent, or Ticca Sahib, and a council of administrators.

Though the capital of the Bussahir Chief, Rampur is little more than a large village, but it has a good sized bazar, the Rajah's palace, his Court-house, and three temples,—the latter dedicated respectively to Nir Singh, Saligram, and Sitaram.

The Rajah's palace possesses a level piece of ground, where his army, the usual "rag-tag and bobtail" which

compose the troops of these petty Hill Chiefs, usually parades. The gateway to the palace is guarded by two field pieces, which give it a very imposing appearance.

There is very little of interest in Rampur beyond its three fairs, which are held annually in the months of November and December. These fairs are well attended, and form a very animated and gay scene. They attract traders from Kabul, Kashmir, Thibet, and British India. The principal goods and commodities, which form the staple of the trade here, consist of *pushm*, a soft fine hair, the undergrowth of the Thibet goat. This wool or substance is chiefly purchased by dealers (who send their agents thither from Amritsar and other Punjab markets) to be woven into chuddars and mullidars. The former are made out of the fabric spun from the very fine wool or hair, and are called Rampur chuddars, though, as a matter of fact, they have no connection with Rampur, except that the wool of which they are composed is purchased there. Puttus, loose and coarse blankets called gudmas, all made out of the coarser hair of the Thibet goat, form a large part of the merchandise brought for sale at these fairs. There is also a good deal of traffic in borax and rock-salt, which are conveyed into Simla, very often packed in skins and carried in panniers on the backs of sheep. Excellent little hill ponies, sturdy, sure-footed, and equal to any amount of hard work, are brought in from Spitti for sale here by breeders and dealers, who do a very good business, not only at these fairs, but with their surplus stock at Simla. These little Spitti ponies are sold at very moderate prices and generally prove satisfactory to purchasers. Many are perfect little pictures of hill ponies.

Rampur town and its surroundings are picturesque, though squalid and otherwise uninteresting.

CLIMATE.

The best seasons of the year for enjoyment are the early spring and the autumn, for at these periods the air is purer, clearer, and more crisp and bracing than at any other time of the year. For the restoration of shattered health a residence in the hills from the close of the monsoon through the winter is certainly of greater benefit than merely visiting Simla during the summer and the rains, which form the orthodox "season."

The latter part of the month of February is generally very delightful. The sun is then warm and pleasant. During the day the air is soft and cool, and the nights are clear and frosty. March, however, is frequently blustering and boisterous, with heavy showers of rain, hail, and even snow, making one believe that winter has returned; though the end of the month becomes once more pleasant, vegetation showing signs of returning life, and fruit trees burst into bloom. From April to the middle of May, it is generally quite dry—though sometimes showery early in May. The weather during this period is splended for out-door life. The *chota bursat* (literally, little rains) lasts for a fortnight from about the end of May, after which for nearly three weeks it is hot—the only time of the whole year the weather can be so called, and even at this period the breeze is fresh in the shade; and the nights are deliciously cool. The monsoon breaks over the hills, with a storm rolling up from the south and west, about the end of June or beginning of July. The first month of the monsoon is pleasant; but during the next two the mountains are constantly enveloped in mists, and the air is steamy, resembling a vapour bath.

RAINFALL and TEMPERATURE.

The following information relating to the meteorology of Simla has been furnished to the Municipal Committee of Simla by the Meteorological Department. It

refers to the period between 1st April 1897 and the 31st March 1898. Being based upon official observations and returns, it is the most authentic information available.

"The weather in Simla during the past year has been conspicuous for its dryness. In one month (December 1897) the amount of rainfall was normal, and in two others (August 1897 and February 1898) it was heavier than usual, but in all the remaining nine months the fall of rain or snow was short, and in the case of November there was no rain whatever during the month. The cold inclement weather of March 1897 continued into April, during which month both the day and night temperatures were lower than usual. May was a hot month, and there was a conspicuous absence of the thunderstorms which usually occur during that month. As a consequence the mean day temperature was nearly 2½° higher than usual and the night temperature 1·8° higher than usual, while the rainfall was only 0·95″ for the whole month in place of the normal 3·64.″ June, July, August and September were all comparatively cool months, notwithstanding that in three of the four months the monsoon was light and intermittent and the rainfall lighter than usual. In October the mean temperature went above the normal and so continued during November. December, on the contrary, at least during the first half, was cooler than usual, and sharp frost was reported. About the middle of December the temperature rose relatively to the normal and was excessive throughout January and the first week of February. Then a period of snowy unsettled weather set in, during which twice the usual amount of snow and rain was received. The mean night temperature for the month was only 34·4° or 2·4° above freezing, while on the night of the 18th, the thermometer fell to 23·0° or 9° below freezing point. About the 20th of February the weather cleared again, and March was dry and warm, the total rainfall for the month being only 0·11″ and the day and night temperatures above the average.

The following table gives a summary of the temperature and rainfall data as measured at the observatory near the Town Hall, and of their variations from the normal:—

Element.	April 1897.	May 1897.	June 1897.	July 1897.	Aug. 1897.	. 1897.	Oct. 1897.	Nov. 1897.	Dec. 1897.	Jany. 1898.	Feby. 1898.	March 1898.
Mean maximum temperature..	63·6	74·2	74·3	69 8	67·2	66·4	62·9	57·7	49·4	50·7	45·1	59·2
Variation from normal ..	−3·2	+2 6	−1·0	+0·5	−0·2	−1·3	+0·4	+2·1	−1 9	+4·3	−2·0	+2·4
Highest maximum of month ..	75·4	82·1	82·7	76·4	71·1	69·5	67·7	64·2	59·4	56·4	58·2	68·8
Mean minimum temperature ..	50·8	59·1	59·8	59·7	59·5	56·2	51·5	46·4	39·7	40·1	34·4	46·3
Variation from normal ..	−1·7	+1·8	−0·7	−0·8	−0·2	−0·9	+0·5	+2·5	−0·5	+3·7	−1·6	+1 8
Lowest minimum of month ..	41·2	48·3	49·3	55·1	55·2	53·6	46·4	39·3	32·2	31·3	23·0	23·4
Mean daily range	12·8	15·1	14·5	10·1	7·7	10·2	11·4	11·3	9·7	10·6	10·7	12·9
Actual rainfall	1·65	0·95	3·42	10·37	19·54	5·16	0·29	0	0·74	0·79	5·20	0·11
Normal rainfall	1·90	3 64	6·79	17·55	7 98	6·56	1·22	0·54	0·74	2·35	2·68	2·24
Variation of actual from normal	−0·25	−2·69	−3·37	−7·18	+1·56	−1·40	−0·93	− 0·54	0	−1·56	+2·52	−2·13
Number of rainy days ..	4	8	9	19	24	8	1	0	2	2	10	1
Normal number of rainy days..	4	6	10	19	19	8	1	1	1	4	4	5

The year 1897 it is true was a very dry year, and may be regarded at all events as a minimum indication of the temperature and the monthly rate of rainfall during a most unfavourable season.

Simla Flora from Thomson's "Western Himalaya and Tibet—(1852)."

Its situation (Simla) is a most favourable one, on the main range of mountains south of the Sutlej river, at a point where a massive peak rises to a height of 8,100 feet, and on the nearest part of the ridge to the plains of India, which is sufficiently elevated, well wooded, and situated favourably with regard to water. The greater part of the station is built on the main range, partly surrounding the peak of Jako, and partly on the ridge running north from it, at an elevation of about 7,000 feet, as far as a smaller culminating point of the range, which is by the inhabitants named Prospect Point. At this point the main range turns sharply to the west, and the station is continued for nearly a mile on a spur which runs towards the north, passing through the station of Jutog. From the scattered position of the houses, the extent of Simla is much more considerable than the bare statement of the number of houses might lead one to suppose. The northern ridge extends almost four miles, and the circuit of Jako, by the principal road, which is from 500 to 1,000 feet below the summit, measures five miles.

In consequence of the sudden elevation of the mountain range at the place where Simla has been built, there is a most complete and surprising change in the vegetation and general appearance of the scenery. During the last ascent on the road from the plains this is sufficiently perceptible, although from the great ravages which the proximity of so large a population has made in the oak woods, only a few stunted bushes are now left on the southern exposure. Between the plains

and Simla the hills are totally devoid of trees, but immediately on gaining the top of the ridge on which the station is built, we enter a fine forest, which covers all the broader parts of the range, especially the slopes which have a northern aspect, stretching down on these in many places to the bottom of the valleys, fully 2,000 feet.

The nature of the forest varies a good deal with the exposure and with the quality of the soil. By far the greater part consists of an oak and a rhododendron, both small evergreen trees, rarely exceeding thirty or forty feet, with wide-spreading arms and rugged twisted branches. A species of *Andromeda* is also very common, and a holly, an *Euonymus*, *Rhamnus*, and *Benthamia*, are the other more common trees, if we except the *Coniferæ*, of which four species occur. Of these, *Pinus longifolia* is common at the western or lower extremity of the station, and prevails, to the exclusion of any other tree, on the dry sunny spurs which run towards the south, at elevations of from 7,000 to 5,000 feet. This species is, of all the Indian pines known to me (except its near ally *P. Khasyana*), that which is capable of enduring the most heat, and at the same time the greatest variation in amount of moisture; as it is found at elevations of not more than 1,000 feet above the level of the sea, equally in the hot humid valleys of Sikkim, where it enjoys a perpetual vapour bath, and on the dry sandstone hills of the Upper Punjab, on which rain hardly ever falls. It is only, however, at low elevations, where the mean temperature is high, that it is capable of supporting a great amount of humidity, for in the damp climates of the Himalaya it is entirely wanting, except in the deepest valleys; and even in the drier districts it is always observed to select the sunnier, and therefore warmer, exposures. Its upper limit is usually about 7,000 feet above the level of the sea, though on Jako at Simla a few stunted trees rise as high as 7,700 feet.

Pinus excelsa is also a very common species at Simla, particularly on the southern face of Mount Jako, which is the highest part of the ridge. *Abies Smithiana*, the third coniferous tree, is exceedingly rare, a few trees only occurring in a shady ravine facing the west; while the deodar, the fourth species, is common on the southern and western slopes of Jako, above 7,000 feet, and again in shady groves at the bottom of the valleys on both sides of the ridge, as low as 5,000 feet. This beautiful tree, the cedar of the Indian mountains, seems limited to the western half of the Himalayan range, extending from the most westerly part of Nipal, as far as the mountains of Affghanistan. It was first described by Roxburgh from specimens sent to him from Kamaon, at a time when the western Himalaya was almost inaccessible to Europeans, under the name by which it is known to the inhabitants of that province, as well as in Kashmir. It is, however, singularly enough, not known by that name in the Simla hills, where it is called *Kélu*; another conifer, *Cupressus torulosa*, a rare tree in the district, having usurped the name, as well as the sacred character, of deodar.

In the thick woods of Simla, a large white monkey, the *Langúr* of the natives, is very common. These animals move about in large flocks, in which may be seen individuals of all sizes and ages, and seldom remain more than a few hours in one place. They are in constant motion, leaping from bough to bough and from tree to tree, chattering constantly; and notwithstanding their great size, are in general harmless, though ready enough to defend themselves if assailed.

The forest extends in parts close up to the peak of Jako, which has an elevation of 8,130 feet. The very summit, however, which is a short flat ridge, and a considerable part of the east and south face, are bare and grassy, or covered with scattered shrubs. The more common shrubby forms of the vegetation of the temperate zone, are *Salix*, *Rosa*, *Rubus*, *Lonicera*,

Viburnum, *Berberis*, *Indigofera*, and *Prinsepia*, all, except the two last, quite European. *Indigofera* forms a remarkable exception, and one well worthy of note, as the genus is a very tropical one, although its shrubby species are particularly abundant throughout the whole of the western Himalaya. These shrubby species, however, constitute a particular section of the genus, very distinct in habit, and in the large size and bright colour of the flower, from the more ordinary forms, and they are confined to the drier parts of the mountains, being quite wanting in the humid climate of Darjeeling and Khasya, and almost entirely so in the mountains of the Peninsula.

The herbaceous vegetation of the spring months quite corresponds, in the temperate nature of its forms, with what has been found to be the case with the trees and shrubs; but during the rainy season, as has been well pointed out by Dr. Royle in his valuable essay on the distribution of Himalayan plants, this is much less markedly the case. At the commencement of spring, in April (for March is still too cold for much vegetation), the weather being generally bright, though with occasional heavy showers, the earliest flowers are species of *Viola*, *Fragaria Geranium*, *Veronica*, *Valeriana*, and dandelion. From April, as summer advances, the temperature gradually rises, till towards the end of June, when the rainy season commences. These months are generally dry, and if no rain falls, the heat is sometimes considerable, the thermometer rising as high as 80° in the shade. Still the flora is almost entirely temperate, the early spring plants being succeeded by many others of European families, principally *Ranunculaceæ*, *Rosaceæ*, *Labiatæ*, *Stellatæ Polygonaceæ*, *Epilobiaceæ*, *Primulaceæ*, &c. I can scarcely enumerate a single spring flowering plant, which does not belong to an European family, unless *Arum* be an exception, which it can hardly be considered, the flowers only being displayed during May and June, while

the leaves do not make their appearance until after the rainy season has commenced. Few species are, however, identical with those of Europe, except *Stellaria media*, *Cerastium vulgatum*, *Taraxacum officinale*, *Verbascum Thapsus*, *Thymus Serpyllum*, and *Poa annua*.

The rainy season generally commences about the 20th of June, or between that date and the end of the month, and continues till the middle or end of September, with occasional intermissions, rarely exceeding a week at a time. During the rains the atmosphere is exceedingly moist, dense fogs usually prevailing when rain does not fall. The rain-fall is probably more considerable at Simla than in the lower ranges, which are nearer the plains, for it has been observed that ranges of 7—8,000 feet (which are generally for this reason well wooded) attract much moisture, and the peak of Jako and other parts of Simla are frequently observed from the stations of Sabathu and Kussowlee, to be covered with dense clouds or mist, at times when at the latter places the weather is bright and clear.

The commencement of the rainy season is the signal in the mountains, as it is very universally throughout India, wherever that season is well marked, for the appearance of a very vigorous and luxuriant growth of plants of annual growth, the seeds (or rootstocks) of which had been lying dormant in the soil awaiting the access of heavy rain. At Simla, as elsewhere in the temperate region of the Himalaya, we find at this season numerous species of Balsams, *Acanthaceæ*, *Orchideæ* and *Labiatæ*, several Gentians and *Cichoraceæ*, a great many grasses and *Cyperaceæ*, and species of *Parnassia*, *Drosera*, *Pedicularis*, *Roscoea*, *Dipsacus*, *Thalictrum*, *Urtica*, &c., &c. Some of these are quite European genera, while others, as *Roscoea*, are interesting as belonging to orders whose maxima occur in very humid climates. The *Labiatæ* of the rainy season are mostly species of *Plectranthus*, and *Elsholtzia*, both quite Indian genera, and

very extensively distributed in mountainous districts. Balsams are quite an Indian order, and they seem everywhere, as has already been remarked by Dr. Royle and by Dr. Wight, to abound in humid shady places, either in dense forest or on the stony banks of mountain streams, in the drier districts only during the rainy season, but in more humid countries more or less throughout the year. The *Orchideæ* of Simla are entirely terrestrial, the dryness and cold of the winter months being greater than are compatible with the occurrence of epiphytical species of this natural order, and for the same reason, I presume, *Melastomaceæ*, so abundant in the Eastern Himalaya, are quite wanting.

BRIEF NOTES ON THE FISHING IN THE GIRI.

THE following notes are culled from the "Handbook of the Sirhind Fishing Club," and the diary of one of the members, which the editor has been kindly permitted to use.

The river Giri falls into the Jumna above the ferry at Rajghat in the western Doon. It is a mountain stream; throughout its whole course fishing can be had without the use of a boat. It flows through beautiful scenery.

The part of the river in which the best fishing is to be found lies between Kharganoo and its junction with the Jumna. The river itself has its source near the Baghi range, which is situated on the Hindustan-Thibet road, five marches beyond Simla.

In its course to the Jumna, the Giri passes within ten miles of Phagu, one march from Simla, where there is a dâk bungalow. Lower down it flows past the village of Kharganoo, about ten miles from Solon, where there is also a dâk bungalow, and it falls into the Jumna close to Rampur-Mundi ferry.

During the rainy season the river (which is from 40 to 80 yards wide and contains many pools and rapid streams) is considerably swollen and quite unfordable; but in the spring and autumn it is passable in many places. Heavy showers affect the volume and color of the water, but the stream soon clears and is then again fit for fishing.

If required, a pony can be taken along the Giri from Kharganoo to Rajghat; but the road is rough and difficult, and the animal must occasionally be led along *pagdandis* over the hills.

Approach.—The best place to make for on the Giri from Simla, Jutogh and the adjacent hill stations, is Kharganoo, about ten miles from Solon. The easiest route is that by the cart road, *viâ* Salogra, a Tonga stage about four miles on the Simla side of Solon. Thence a pathway runs to the bed of the Simla stream, the course of which should be followed until the Giri is reached. There is also a direct path from Solon to the Giri at Kharganoo, the latter part of which lies in the Simla stream. Ponies can be taken by both routes, but the best bridle way is *viâ* Salogra.

Kharganoo can also be reached from Simla by marching along the bed of the Simla stream for a distance of about 22 miles. This route is not a very suitable one for a pony.

The Giri river runs through territory belonging to the Maharajah of Sirmoor, and arrangements must be made for coolies and transport before entering it. A *parwaná* from His Highness will at all times be quite sufficient.

Camping Grounds, &c.—There is a good dry camping ground on the high ground above the left bank of the river, close to its junction with the Simla stream; but as there is no bungalow, it is necessary for the fisherman to provide himself with a light portable tent.

The country, being mostly low-lying, is malarious and, therefore, not healthy during the rainy season. In the

spring the valley of the Giri is said to be absolutely free from malaria. There are but few roads between the encampments, and, as a rule, the course of the river has to be followed. Occasionally one comes across a mule track or small pathway. There is also a good deal of jungle to be got through, more particularly between Rajghat and Sattawan, and thence to Mandal. The river rises a good deal between Sattawan and Koona, and from thence to Anoo, there is a gradual rise and also some fine pools and runs. From Anoo onward to Newar, the rise is very great and the falls consequently more rapid. Between Newar and Majere the usual route is across the hill, leaving the river for some miles of its course. In fine weather the bed of the river can be followed the whole way, and some very fine pools will be found; but the valley is narrow and the river deep.

Coolies are preferable to mules for carrying burdens. Four annas for short marches and five to six annas for longer ones are the rates usually paid. Fresh coolies are generally necessary, if a double march is attempted; but sometimes the one lot will do the double stage for double pay. If detained for a day a detention allowance of 4 annas has to be paid to each coolie.

The usual camping grounds are as follows :—

No. of Marches.	Names of Halting Places.	Estimated Distance in Miles.	Remarks.
1	Simla to Kharganoo	22	Double march. Camp on high ground above stream.
2	Majere	5	Camp by river.
3	Newar	6	Camp by village 2 miles off.
4	Anoo	4½	Camp by village distant on hill.

No. of Marches.	Names of Halting Places.	Estimated Distance in Miles.	Remarks.
5	Seoon	5	Camp by river ; village close by.
6	Mythoo	6	Camp by bed of river ; village above.
7	Sattibagh	4	Camp close to river. Ranka lake opposite. Post office and Tahsil.
8	Myuth	3	Camp close to river and village.
9	Korilla	5	Camp close to river and village.
10	Koona	3	Camp above the river and village.
11	Mandal	3	Camp on high ground above river ; shady.
12	Sattawan	3	Camp side of river—village above about a mile off.
13	Goorkowalla	5	Shady camping ground ; village adjacent.
14	Rajghat	6	Camp by ferry ; village close by.

From the foregoing it will be easily seen that, for convenience of carriage, the tents should be small, and that the whole camp equipage should be as light as possible. Kabul 80 or 120 lbs., with a few small *pals* for servants, are those recommended by sportsmen who have fished this river.

Supplies in the shape of sheep, milk, rice, ghee, atta, etc., are usually obtainable, but travellers should carry all necessary stores and liquor with them. No vegetables or fruit are to be had, but bread (and soda water, if required) can generally be obtained from Nahan, about 18 miles distant from Sattibagh.

If ponies are taken, a spare set of shoes and nails are a necessary precaution, as there are no forges *en route.*

The inhabitants will be found civil and obliging, and travellers are recommended to treat the Maharaja's people with liberality and consideration.

Fishing Season.—The best seasons to fish in the Giri are the spring and autumn—April and October being the two best months. A good many fish lie in the lower portion of the river all the year round, but, as a rule, the fish run up from the Jumna about March and fall back in October. Good fishing is obtainable any time during the rains, when the water clears sufficiently. Between the 15th April and the month of May, the valleys are generally very hot, particularly in the lower reaches near the Jumna, and during this time fishing is somewhat trying in the heat of the day. In the mornings and evenings it is pleasant and these are the best times of the day at which to fish both in the spring and during the hot weather. In the autumn the fish take best about the middle of the day.

Tackle.—In the spring good sport is often to be had with a fly, particularly at the junctions of the small streams. A black fly with a thick body twisted with silver and a red tail is a good one for the river. Madras junglecock feathers are attractive. The fish in the Giri "run to" all sizes, and whether fishing with fly, spoon, or natural bait, fish may be hooked of any weight from 1 to 50lbs. The heaviest kind are killed by spinning a small fish, particularly when the water is at all colored. The fish love to lie in the warm water poured into the river by the small streams. Mahseer can generally be taken in the Giri by any artificial spinning bait; but for choice the best artificial bait seems to be the flying spoon, both in the spring and autumn. A silver spoon with gilt or copper back and $1\frac{1}{4}''$ to $1\frac{1}{2}''$ long has been found most effective. When the water is clear and low, it is unnecessary to weight

the spoon. Fine tackle with single gut, and filled with small (and light) hooks and silvered swivels and rings, is the best kind to use. The length of line required is about 100 yards and should not be less than 60 yards, as very big fish may be hooked at any time, even when fishing with the finest spoons. The line should be of medium salmon size,or rather finer,when the water is low.

Reels should not be stiff, and should run freely, and the rod should be flexible. The most suitable rod to use is a light, flexible, spliced salmon one, about 16 feet in length. Two pieces are preferable to three. A ringall cane makes an excellent rod for spinning the natural bait. Ferruled rods are unsatisfactory, as they go at the joints.

A fishing can should be taken to hold the baits, and a casting net will be found useful for catching them. A good sized landing net will also be found useful for landing large fish, where they cannot be brought to a shelving beach. Two rods might be taken, one for fly or fly spoon, and the other ready mounted for the natural bait and used as occasion requires.

The river is sometimes spoiled for fishing by heavy logs of wood being floated down from the forest. At such times the sportsman should either pass beyond the logs or get well behind them.

To fish in the Giri, it is often necessary to wade up to the knees in order to command the best pools and runs.

For clothing, warm stockings, thick boots, khaki colored garments, and sola topies, khaki covered, are the most suitable.

It should be remembered that the river often changes its course after or during the rains, so that what may be good fishing ground one year yields but poor sport the next, and *vice versâ*.

It must be borne in mind that the river Giri is preserved, being leased to the Sirhind Fishing Club, and the fishing is closed to all who are not members of that club. The subscription is Rs. 16 per annum.

Principal Trees and Plants of the Sutlej Valley, with native names and approximate elevation.

(From Dr. Cleghorn's *Forest Report* for 1864.)

Hill Name.	Botanical Name.	English Name.	Elevation.	Remarks.
Kelu	Cedrus deodara	Deodar or Himalayan cedar.	6,000— 8,000	Properly devadara, god tree, probably identical with the Cedar of Lebanon.
Kail	Pinus excelsa	Lofty pine	7,000—11,000	
Chil or Salla	Pinus longifolia	Fir, long leaved	1,500— 7,000	The resin is used as a dressing for sores.
Neoza	Pinus gerardianna	Edible pine	5,000—10,500	Wood not used.
Rai	Abies Smithianna	Himalayan spruce	9,000—11,000	The wood of these is much inferior to the other pines.
Pindrow or Tos	Piceas wibbian	Webbian pine or Silver Fir.	8,000—11,000	
Deodar	Cupressus torulosa	Cypress	6,000— 8,000	Wood useful, but trees scarce, not felled.
Lewar or Shur	Juniperus excelsa	Pencil cedar	9,000-12,000	Yields an excellent light odoriferous wood.
Pama or Talu	Juniperus squamata	Creeping Junipar	12,000-13,000	Used as firewood in crossing the high passes.
Thona	Taxus baccata	Yew	9,000—10,500	Wood used for bows and jampan poles.
Paprang or Shamshad.	Buxus sempervirens	Box	6,000	Wood used for plugs of rifle bullets, also for wood engraving.
Bán	Quercus incanna	Hoary Oak	5,000— 8,000	The principal firewood in the hill stations.
Bre	Quercus ilex	Evergreen Oak	8,000	
Moru	Quercus dilatata	......	6,000— 9,000	Yields an excellent heavy wood.
Karshu	Quercus semecarpiplia.	Alpine Oak	9,000—12,000	A magnificent tree; timber much esteemed by the natives.
	Quercus floribunda	......	9,000	Wood soft; coma of seeds a paper stuff.
Pahári Pipal	Populus ciliata	Poplar	6,000	
	Populus alba	White Poplar	9,000	
Akrot	Juglans regia	Walnut	7,000— 9,000	Wood used for gun stocks and furniture.
Kunch	Alnus obtusifolia	Alder	4,000— 5,000	Used for charcoal employed in iron smelting.

Hill Name.	Botanical Name.	English Name.	Elevation.	Remarks.
Kanor	Pavia indica	Him. Horse chestnut.	5,000—8,000	Seeds eaten in time of scarcity.
Bras	Rhododendron Arboreum.	Rhododendron	6,700—8,000	Flowers made into jelly, sub-acid.
Bhojpatra	Betula Bhojpattra	Birch	10,000—13,000	Bark used for writing on, and covering umbrellas.
Shurli	Corylus lacera	Hazel	8,000	Wood, light, compact.
	Acer loevigatum	Polished Maple	9,000	The knots are hollowed out; and used as drinking cups.
Káo or Wi	Olea ferruginea	Olive	3,500–5,000	Wood used for combs, it is much like box.
Cham Kharak	Carpinus viminea	Hernbeam	5,500	Wood esteemed by carpenters.
Eilan or Eyar	Andromeda ovalifolia.	Andromeda	7,000	Wood used for charcoal.
Rin	Contoneaster bacillaris	Him. Mountain Ash.	8,000—10,000	Wood used for walking sticks.
Tharmal	Benthamia fragiera	......	6,000	The fruit used as a preserve.
Bahul	Grewia oppositifolia	......	5,000	The branches are periodically cut in winter time as provender for the cattle.
Dhamun	Grewia elastica	.....	4,000	
Túng	Rhus parviflora	......	5,000	Wood, hard, yellow.
Kak	Rhus acuminata	Sumach	5,000	Wood prized for furniture.
Tatri	Rhus semialata			
Tuna	Cedrela toona	Common Toon	6,000	Much used for furniture.
Kaksh	Cornus macrophylla	Dogwood	7,000	Charcoal employed in the manufacture of gunpowder.
	Fraxinus zanthony loedes..	Crab Ash	7,000	Makes good walking sticks, hafts and handles.
Gingaru	Cratoegus crenulata	White Thorn	3,000—7,000	Used for staves, etc.

ECONOMIC PLANTS.

Hill Name.	Botanical Name.	English Name.	Elevation.	Remarks.
Bhang	Cannabis indica	Indian hemp	3,000—7,000	Yields Charras and Himalayan hemp.
Atis	Aconitum heterophyllum.	Atis plant	8,000—13,000	The roots are much used as a tonic and febrifuge.
Tilia Kachang	Aconitum napillus	Wolfsbane	10,000—15,000	The roots are used for destroying wild animals.
Maura Bikh	Aconitum ferox	Poisonous aconite	10,000—14,000	
Pashmaran	Thalictrum foliolosum	Meadow rue	5,000—8,000	Root used as a febrifuge.

Kurrú	Picrorhiga kurrooa	Bitter root	11,000	Root exported to the plains.
Simrung	Rhododendron campanulatum.	Alpine Rhododendron	10,000—14,000	Leaves used as snuff, known as Kashmir puttray.
Taliori	Rhododendron lepidotum.	......	10,000—14,000	Leaves highly stimulant.
Kanta	Miconopsis aculeata	Prickly poppy	10,000—12,000	Flowers, blue-purple, showy.
Jeku	Daphnepapy racia	Paper shrub	5,000—8,000	Paper prepared from the bark.
Kú	Ciltis criolarpa	Nettle tree	6,000	Bark used for making shoes.
Súrch	Hippophoé salicifolia	Buckthorn	10,000	Berries form a good preserve mixed with sugar.
Laudar	Symplocos paniculata	Symplocos	7,000—9,000	Used in dyeing with madder.
Bekhul	Prinsepia utilis	Prinsepia	4,000—8,000	Used for hedges; yields an oil.
Múrub	Desmodium	......	7,000	Bark is used as a paper stuff.
Amlora	Rumex hastatus	Sorrel	6,000—8,000	Widely distributed.
Amlu	Oxyria reniformis	Mountain sorrel	6,000—8,000	Used as a native remedy.
Kafi Kusbal	Chaptalia gossypina Aplotaxis fastusa	Shepherd's tinder	7,000—9,000	The tomentum on the under surface of the leaves is used by the hill people as tinder.
	Tanacetum teneufolium	Tansy	10,000	Odour pleasant, used for flavouring pudding.
Karaunda	Corissa edulis	......	3,000—5,000	Fruit made into jelly.
Gihain	Elocagnus conferta	Oleaster		Fruit edible, acidulous.
Laskar	Delphinium brunonianum.	Musk Plant	14,000	Smells powerfully of musk.
Chotra	Berbaris lycium Berbaris aristata	Berberry	8,000—9,000 6,000—10,000	The extract Rasút is prepared from the root, a yellow dye.
	Indigofera pulchella	Wild Indigo	7,000	Rocky hills, abundant.
	Capparis obovata	Caper	3,000—5,000	Fruit pickled.
Nirgal	Arundinaria utiles	Hill Bamboo	9,000	Used for wicker-work and for lining the roof of houses.
Bhabar	Urtica hyterophylla	Neilgherry Nettle	4,000—7,000	Yields a valuable fibre.
Puya	Bochmeria nevea	Rana	4,000—6,000	Furnishes a textile fibre of great value.
Siharu	Bachmeria Talicifolia	......	6,000	Used for making ropes.
Kurrú	Gentiana Kurroo Kashmirica G.	Him. Gentean	10,000	Near the eternal snows.
Cheretta	Ophelia paniculata Ophilia purpurascens Ophelia speciosa	Chiretta	7,000—9,000	These annual plants supply the chief portion of the bitter root exported to the plains.

Hill Name.	Botanical Name.	English Name.	Elevation.	REMARKS.
Piperi	Julipa Stellata	Tulip	4,000--6,000	Bulbs edible.
	Leontodon taraxacum.	Dandelion	6,000—10,000	Yields the officinal extract.
Rai	Sinapis Glauca	Mustard	Up to 11,000	Much cultivated.
Zira	Cuminum cyminum	Cumin of scripture	7,000—9,000	Abundant in pasture, seed exported to the plains.
		FRUITS.		
Jaldaru	Armeniaca vulgaris	Apricot	7,000—13,000	It is a common article of food and a source of wealth.
Arú	Amygdalus persica	Peach	....	It has little flavour.
Jamu	Cerasus cornuta	Bird cherry	7,000—10,000	Simla.
Paddam	Cerasus puddum	Cherry	3,000— 7,000	
Palu	Pygus malus	Apple	....	The apples in Kunawar want flavour compared with those in Kashmir.
Mehal	Pyrus variolosa	Wild pear	3,000—7,000	When rotten, the fruit becomes sweet.
Trummel	Ficus macrophylla	Wild fig	5,000	Sold in bázáar, Simla; flavour pleasant.
Akrot	Juglans regia	Walnut	7,000— 9,000	This fruit ripens well at Pangi, but not much higher.
	Ribes nubisola R. Glacial	Currant	11,000	Several varieties occur, but fruit without flavour.
	R. Grossularia	Gooseberry	10,000	Asrung Valley.
Angúr	Vitis vinifera	Vine	7,000— 9,000	The grape is an uncertain crop.
Ré or Neoza	Pinus gorardiana	Edible Pine	7,000—10,000	The neoga or chilgoga pine is first seen on the Miru Ridge and above Chini becomes a principal tree of the forest. The seeds are collected and stored for winter use, being a regular article of food.
Findak	Corylus lacera	Hazel	8,000	The nuts are sold in Simla.
Kaiphal	Myrica sapida	Box Myrtle	4,000— 6,000	Fruit used for making "sharbat."
Ankri	Rubus flavus	Bramble	5,000— 7,000	Fruit used for preserves.
Banaphae	Fragarea vesca	Strawberry	7,000	
Tútri	Morus harvifolia	Mulberry	....	Cultivated foliage prized for cattle.

HINTS TO TRAVELLERS.

The following is an extract from Major Gordon Forbes' well-known Guide Book [1893] :—

Things to be taken on a march into the interior and Hints for Travellers.—Biscuits, ginger bread-nuts, tins of butter (Irish), jams, cocoa (Van Houten), cocoa and milk, tea, sugar, potted meats, bacon (in canvas), extract of meat (Brand), cornflower, a few tins of milk (very rarely wanted), rice, flour, oatmeal, pepper, salt, spices, raisins and currants, curry-powder, carbonate of soda or baking powder, candles (the best), matches, of course, stores *ad lib.* may be taken, but the above are almost necessaries. A few 1-lb. tins of corned beef should be taken in case of supplies failing. Kerosine oil can be bought at Rampur.

Light hatchet, small spade for trenching tent, trowel, light strong rope, whipcord, hammer, nails, brad-awl, sail-maker's needle and twine for repairing tent, spare boot nails, spring candlestick with globe and top, candle lantern, bucket, cobbler's wax, a few coils of thin copper wire, needles and thread, buttons, tape, &c.

The tent known as the Light Field Service Cabul tent is about the best pattern, it is light and roomy, the poles should, however, be jointed in the middle. For servants—*tent d'abris.* The bed known as the 'Cashmir,' it is very light and strong; a light folding table and chair, wash-hand basin stand, folding canvas or Indian-rubber bath.

All loads should be of such a shape that they can be carried on the back; the Simla coolies will carry them on their heads in preference, but once in the interior they are carried the other way.

The 'Bigarri' brings with him his own rope which he fastens round the load in such a manner as to leave two projecting loops through which he puts his arms up to the shoulder; in some districts they only hitch the loop over the shoulders.

Skin-covered wicker trunks for carrying stores, clothes, &c., and open basket ones for the numerous odds and ends required in camp life; these last are cylindrical in shape, and are called 'Khiltas.'

All bundles of bedding should be tightly strapped up in waterproof sheeting, not only to keep it dry, but also to protect it from the numerous pests which infest the persons and clothes of these unwashed folk.

Tent-pegs of strong tough wood and about 2 feet long should be provided for the corner and storm ropes; the small iron pegs sold with the tents are only useful for minor ropes and side-walls.

Supplies for the interior should be taken from Simla.

Potatoes, onions, flour, and *atta* for the servants can be bought at Kotgarh and Rampur, but it is not always wise to trust to doing so.

Fowls and eggs can be obtained in small quantities up to Pangi; small hill sheep can be obtained all along the road, but notice, sometimes as much as three days, is required, as they have to be brought from elevated grazing grounds.

Milk is obtained throughout the whole route up to Thibet, in fact much better than can be got at Simla; the half-bred 'Yak,' the 'Zo Po' gives excellent sweet milk, rich in cream. Some of the bungalows have small gardens from which beans and pumpkins of sorts can be got.

Strong boots or shoes, well furnished with nails, should be taken, as after the Hindustan and Thibet Road ceases, the path is dreadfully rough on shoe leather.

Money should be taken principally in small change, and the traveller will, if he is wise, invariably pay his coolies himself, and for everything he buys; if left to servants, they take a percentage and the people get dissatisfied.

The coolies should never be paid until all the loads are in, and then they should be paid at once.

Always, when marching early in the morning, let them halt for half an hour for their morning meal; if marching late, see that they have it before they start. Take quinine, Eno, Lorbeer's cholera and snake antidotes, chlorodyne, ipecacuanha, arsenical soap (for skins), zinc eye ointment, carbolic ointment, lint and plaster, Cockle's pills and Seidlitz powders. People suffering from various ailments, as well as injuries, are sure to be brought to you for treatment; and if supplied with a few ordinary medicines, one can often alleviate a good deal of suffering. Take blue or neutral tinted goggles for the snow.

The water is, as a rule, good, but do not drink much on the march, particularly when climbing.

Take a 'Warren' cooking-pot; it will be found invaluable; keep a stew going in it, and follow the instructions sold with it carefully. Do not let your servants have the management of it; do it yourself; take also a sauce-pan and frying-pan—enamelled iron or aluminium is the best, and a kettle; tea-pot and sulky, copper cooking-pots are always a source of danger—the tin wears off and leaves the copper exposed; all cooking vessels should be either of block tin, enamelled iron or aluminium.

Have the flour, rice, &c., sewn up in strong bags made of linen or drill.

Have tops made for jam and butter tins, so that when the tins are opened, the top can be put on; one top will do for each kind of tin; it should fit pretty tight.

It is just as well to make up one's mind to make tea one's principal beverage; beer is of course out of the question on an extended trip. One cooly can carry a box of two dozen bottles; whisky or brandy are more portable, but one very quickly gets into the habit of only taking an occasional drink, and the water met with is generally excellent.

* * * * *

ROUTES.

The following routes are taken from Major Gordon Forbes' Guide Book [1893].

SIMLA TO SHIPKI.

	m.	ft.	
SIMLA ...	...	7220	Leave the 'Mashobra' road after passing the toll bar, long ascent to 'Mahasu,' then level.
FAGU ...	12	8178	The road to 'Mussoorie' and that to the 'Chor' Peak branch off here.
THEOG ...	4¾	7421	A short cut, about 3 miles out, for pedestrians only.
MATIANA ...	11¼	7691	Level road.
NARKUNDA ...	11	8799	Through the forest on the slopes of 'Huttoo,' at about 5 miles; 'Kotgarh' road turns off to the left, rather a steep descent.
KOTGARH ...	10¾	5600	Road through 'Komarsen' to Kulu *viâ* Dularsh.
NIRIT ...	10	3660	Descend by a short cut, for pedestrians only, for 2 hours, then strike road, reach the 'Sutlej' in 3, and 'Nirit' in 4 hours.
BRIDGE OVER 'NOGRI.'	7	...	Road fairly level along bank of river. Ascend gradually from the 68th mile.
RAMPUR City	5	3870	Suspension Bridge across Sutlej. There is a Post Office here.
RAMPUR Bungalow.	2	...	
GAURA ...	6½	6512	Ascend for about 5 miles. The last mile very steep, then fairly level.
MANGLAD STREAM.	...	...	At 83rd mile steep descent to bridge over 'Manglad' stream, then steep ascent to 87th mile, join the Upper or Forest road, from 'Bagi,' then level.
SARAHAN ...	10½	6713	The scenery is very fine on this march, road level to about the 94th mile, between 95th and 97½th ascent and descent over the 'Maneoti' Pass; from 100th mile
BRIDGE ...	...	...	descend to bridge over mountain torrent, then ascent, first gradual
MANASPUR...	...	...	then steep, passing village with two fine deodars to crest of ridge, then level for ¼ mile.

SIMLA TO SHIPKI—(*contd.*)

	m.	ft.	
TARANDA ...	14	7015	At 105th mile steep descent to
BRIDGE ...	...	...	bridge over torrent, then gradual ascent.
PAUNDA ...	$4\frac{1}{2}$	6124	Gradual ascent; fine deodar and elm forest with quaint temple at 110th mile in deodar forest. The scenery is particularly fine.
NACHAR ...	$4\frac{1}{2}$	7125	Steady descent to Bungalow, which is about 100 feet above the river.
WANGTU BRIDGE.	3	5361	Cross 'Wangtu' bridge and a little further on a bridge over the 'Wangar' torrent (from here there is a path over the 'Bhabeh' Pass to 'Dankar'); road fairly level along river bank, at 122nd mile road turns to left up hill; the road to 'Kilba,' the Forest Head-Quarters, continues along the bank for a mile, then crosses to left bank by a wooden bridge.
CHAGAON ...	...	...	Change coolies, ascend for $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles, then level.
URNI ...	$9\frac{3}{4}$	7900	Road level for one hour, then gradual ascent for another hour. The scenery now begins to be very fine; the view of the 'Morang' snows across the Sutlej being magnificent, the principal peaks being the 'Kailas,' 19,866; 'Raldang,' 21,250; and 'Castle Rock,' 18,110; the 'Baspa' river here flows into the Sutlej from the S. E. This valley is noted for its fine scenery, and is more open than most Himalayan valleys. A road follows the course of the river up to near its source, then crosses the high range to the S. and descends into the valley of the 'Bhagirathi' by the 'Nela' Pass.
ROGI ...	$10\frac{1}{4}$	9361	The road to 'Roghi' rises gradually with a slight ascent at the very end to the Bungalow which is finely situated, Raldang being immediately opposite. 'Burrel' are to be got on 'Rakchora,' a fine rugged hill, which rises behind the Bungalow.
CHINI ...	3	9196	Good camping ground, fine view.

SIMLA TO SHIPKI—(*contd.*)

	m.	ft.	
PANGI ...	7	8950	Road fairly level; cross two fine torrents at head of ravine at 145th mile, then gradual ascent.
BRIDGE OVER KOZHANG ...	...	...	Level to 149th mile; then gradual, followed by steep ascent, then descent, and last two miles level.
RARANG ...	8	9068	Camping ground. A forest bridge here connects with the road on left bank; a strong prevailing wind blows over the ridge on which the camping ground is. (There is a road through 'Riba' along the 'Todang Gar' river to the 'Gamrang' or Winter Pass; closed between May and September, as all the snow bridges are swept away. Also a way down to 'Gangotri,' but which is said to be very difficult; it goes by way of the 'Charang' Pass to 'Chitkul' on the 'Baspa;' also another road to 'Rispa' and the 'Morang' Fort up the 'Taglagar' river to the 'Zeoozang' Pass into Thibet.)
AKPA ...	3	...	The road is fairly level (change coolies at 'Akpa').
JANGI ...	4	9000	Through fine deodar forest. There is a large prayer-wheel here in a temple; the Hindus call it a 'Tarkudwara.'
			From this point the length of the marches is given in hours, as it is almost impossible to estimate miles on the sort of road that has to be traversed; also if miles were correctly given it would convey nothing to the intending traveller. The times given are those taken by laden coolies well kept up to their work.
JANGI ...	...	9000	Gradual descent for four miles, when the road comes to an abrupt termination; from henceforward it is only a rough hill track.

SIMLA TO SHIPKI—(*contd.*)

	hrs.	ft.	
END OF ROAD	...	..	Descend by rough path to the 'Taite' river, cross by a crazy bridge, then very steep ascent up a bad path for one hour, after which ¾ mile along a fairly level path. A rather rough descent and ascent round the end of a
KOLA ..	5½	...	spur, then level to 'Kola,' and passing above 'Pilo' to 'Labrang.'
LABRANG ...	¾	9000	Instead of the long and fairly level road round the spur, there is a short cut by a rather steep ascent over the 'Kilmerung' Pass, from which although the elevation is trifling, the view is superb. The road passes through a deodar forest down to the upper part of 'Labrang' and thence to 'Tabang;' this is, perhaps a better way, certainly more picturesque.
LABRANG ...	...	...	Camping ground very bad, rough, stony, and on a slant. 'Khanum,' a large village, is opposite across the valley, a mile distant.
TABANG ...	1	10,000	Steep ascent for one hour to the hamlet of 'Tabang.' The camping ground is good here, but all supplies as well as coolies, except milk, must be got from 'Labrang' or 'Khanum.' From here a gradual ascent; at 2 hours is a stream. This is a good place for the coolies to have their morning meal; then steady ascent for 2½ hours to the top of the Pass.
RUNANG RANG PASS.	4½	14,360	A bitter cold wind generally blows over the crest, then descent for about 3½ hours down stony desolate valley (passing 'Thaling' village towards the end) to the
THANUM ...	3½	...	'Thanum' river, the last bit of descent very steep and rough. Cross the river, a clear rushing stream, by a very ricketty bridge, then a gradual ascent to village, about 15 miles.
SUGNAM ...	10	8,000	'Sugnam' is a large flourishing village, chiefly Buddhist.

SIMLA TO SHIPKI—(*contd.*)

	hrs.	ft.	
			There is a road up the river through 'Rupa,' 'Pamachang' and the 'Namgang' Pass to 'Dankar, in 'Spiti,' and another by the 'Hangerang' Pass 14,354 over the northern spur of 'Thugirigga' by 'Hango' to 'Chango' on the 'Li' or 'Spiti' river on the road to 'Lahoul.'
			There are two ways of getting to 'Pooi,'—one by the way of the 'Charling' Pass over the southern spur of 'Thugirigga' 16,684, and the other by the cliff road down the gorge of the Sutlej. These roads diverge near 'Shaso;' the latter is very bad and rough, and in places very dangerous, and is impassable by animals; either way is a long tiring 12 hours' journey. The cliff road should not be attempted by any one who has not a good head. In August and again in September the only available space for a tent was the flat roof of a house.
SHASO ...	3	...	The road to 'Pooi' or 'Spuch,' as it is spelt on the map, drops sharply down into the bed of the stream from the 'Hangerang' Pass and ascends to a corresponding level on the opposite side. From here there is a fairly good path to 'Shaso,' a small village (before reaching it the road up to the 'Charling La' branches off to the left with a gradual ascent of about 3 miles to 'Lafang' Dogri; good milk can be obtained here, not anything else. From the 'Dogri' there is a very stiff climb up a steep slope of loose stones and shale to the top of the Pass 14,600. About an hour further is another 'Dogri;' no supplies of any sort or fire-wood, but a good place to camp and break the journey. From here is a long and rough but not difficult descent to 'Pooi').

SIMLA TO SHIPKI—(*contd.*)

		hrs.	ft.	
				There is a path from here to 'Labrang' crossing the 'Thanum' and ascending the almost precipitous spur of 'Cheladt' by the 'Benang' Pass, but it is very dangerous and very often impassable.
CLIFF	...	1½	..	The cliff road continues along the hill-side, a good bit of it over slate avalanches now at rest, for an hour and a half, when it reaches the cliffs of the Sutlej just above the point where the two streams join. From here for the next five hours the path works across the face of the cliffs, is bad throughout, and in many places exceedingly dangerous. It then leaves the cliffs; and after an hour and three-quarters (coolies 2½) of good going, with a drop into and a steep climb out of a deep ravine, 'Pooi' is reached. About 18 miles. Coolies take a good 12 hours with two short halts for food; one at 'Shaso,'—one in the cliffs.
POOI	...	12	10,000	'Pooi' is a large flourishing village with many well-built houses; it is purely Buddhist. The only camping ground, before the crops are cut, is the open space in front of the 'Mani' house or Lama Serai, which answers to the village green, and is used for public meetings, festivals, etc. There is a Moravian Mission here. The Mission House stands above the village; it is very small; only two rooms with office, and a school-room used as a church. There is a fine prayer-wheel in the Lama Serai. Before leaving 'Pooi' or 'Namgea' it is advisable to send on word to 'Shipki' to prepare the way, as some travellers have been very rudely treated and not allowed to pitch their tents. Take on also from 'Pooi' a man who can talk both Hindustani and Thibe-

SIMLA TO SHIPKI—(*contd.*)

	hrs.	ft.	
			tan to act as interpreter. He can also perhaps smooth over any difficulties that may arise. Wilson, when he went there in 1876, was very rudely treated. The 'Mookyar' or head man of 'Pooi,' by name 'Stopki,' is very civil, and will give every assistance in his power to help travellers on.
BRIDGE over Sutlej.	½	...	From 'Pooi' there is a steep descent of about a thousand feet to the Sutlej, which is crossed by a very unpleasant kind of bridge, 100 feet long and about 70 feet above the water; here very deep and rapid. From here to 'Dubling,' where coolies are changed, the road is bad and rocky.
DUBLING ...	2	...	'Dubling' is some little way above the road, and notice should be sent on ahead to prevent delay.
KHALB ...	3	...	Road very rough and bad, up and down over rocks and through streams along the river bank. Coolies are again changed here. A bit of rough ascent and descent, and the last bit level to camping ground on a field above the village, under a huge rock.
NAMGEA ...	1	10,000	A rope bridge here crosses the river and ascends to the Monastery of "Tashigang," high upon the side of "Lio Porgyul." There is also a way too, round the shoulder of the spur to "Nako" and "Chango." From "Namgea" there are two ways of reaching "Shipki,"—one by the gorge through which the Sutlej enters India, and the other over the Kung Ma La. The first is bad and quite impracticable for animals, but is preferred by the coolies to the long, tiring ascent and great height of the Pass.
NAMGEA DOGRI	1	...	One hour's climb up a steep rocky path to a few terraced fields and tumble-down stone huts fenced

IMLA TO SHIPKI—(*concld.*)

	rs.	ft.	
			with hedges of wild gooseberry and a stream of clear cold water, then a steady ascent up a rocky pathway, rough and arduous certainly, but not in the least dangerous or difficult; the last half-hour being up a very steep slope of loose stones and gravel,
1st Crest ...	3½	...	and the 1st crest of Pass is
Kung Ma La...	...	15,500	reached. An hour's scrambling over a boulder-strewn slope brings
2nd Crest ...	1	...	you to the 2nd or Thibetan crest, the frontier line being somewhere between the two; the view is magnificent. The first part of the descent is like the last part of the ascent,——loose stones and shale with no firm foothold; it then gets easier as the slope becomes less, and before reaching 'Shipki' is very fairly good; two-thirds of the way down is the 'Dogri' of 'Shipki.'
Shipki ...	3¼	10,000	A large Tartar village; good milk, flour, pumpkins, and sometimes sheep can be obtained; wood and water plentiful; coolies by the lower road take 10 hours.

'POOI' TO 'SUGNAM' OVER 'CHARLING' OR 'LAFANG' PASS.

	hrs.	ft.	
			Began the ascent behind 'Pooi' at 6-30 A.M., road rough; halted at a spring about 9 for 20 minutes to allow the coolies to eat; then steady ascent, bad in places to
Charling Dogri.	6½	...	'Charling Dogri,' which I reached at 1 P.M., halted ½ hour, reached
Charling Pass	1	14,700	top of Pass after a stiff climb; at 2-30 halt 10 minutes. (Coolies took a lower but longer path after leaving the 'Dogri,' as they would not face the steep ascent.) Descended half running, half walking, ankle-deep in loose stones and gravel down a very steep slope, and

'POOI' TO 'SUGNAM' OVER 'CHARLING' OR 'LAFANG' PASS—(*concld.*)

	hrs.	ft.	
LAFANG DOGRI	35	...	reached 'Lafang Dogri' at 3-15; waited for the coolies until 3-45; struck into the Shaso road at 5; went on with the two strongest coolies with my tent, and reached
SUGNAM ...	11¾	...	'Sugnam' at 6-15; the remainder
(COOLIES) ...	13	...	of the coolies arrived at 7-30 P.M.; 13 hours out from 'Pooi.' A long, tiring day.

'SARAHAN' TO 'NARKUNDA' BY THE UPPER OR FOREST ROAD.

	hrs.	ft.	
SARAHAN ...	...	...	At 87th mile the road turns off to the left and follows the course of the 'Manglad' stream, which it crosses by a bridge at about
MOSHNU ...	4	...	3 miles; then gradual ascent through lovely forest scenery, passing 'Moshnu' village in about an hour; ¾ later cross bridge in ravine and ascend for another
DARUN ...	1½	...	¾ hour to village of 'Darun.' The
FOREST. BUNGALOW...	1	...	Bungalow is one hour further on,—about 14 miles altogether.
DARUN ...	...	...	Descent through forest, then over open hill-side passing 'Tola' village; at 1½ hours cross stream; 1½ hours later by bridge over end
FOREST BUNGALOW			of spur to bridge across the 'Nogri,' a clear green stream;
TACHLECH ...	...	...	then ascent for one hour,—about 10 miles. Steady ascent at times through fine forest for 2½ hours to crest of ridge. Here is a small grassy plateau and a pond with a bubbling spring; then level road through forest and across fine rocks; one place where a pony could not cross, as the beams of the road had given way,—about 10 miles.
BHALI ...	...	...	Road fairly level through fine forest scenery; cross large stream at head of valley at 2¾ hours; the

'SARAHAN' TO 'NARKUNDA' BY THE UPPER OR FOREST ROAD—(*contd.*)

	hrs.	ft.	
SOONGRI ...	4	...	gradual ascent for one hour to a place where the road had given way and a detour is necessary ; a steep bit of up and down for 20 minutes.
			About 10 miles level road, fine scenery,—occasionally bits of forest.
KUDRELLI ...	3	...	About 9 miles ; Forest Rest House.
BAGI ...	3½	...	About 9 miles.
NARKUNDA ...	...	...	A level road through the forest on the slopes of 'Huttoo' 12 miles ; it is quite worth while, if time allows, to do this march *viâ* the top of 'Huttoo' (about 11,000 feet).

	Bungalow Rooms.		m.	Cooly hire. *a.*	*p.*	
SIMLA TO FAGU	D B*	5	12	5	6	
THEOG ...	D B*	3	5	2	6	
MATIANA ...	D B*	4	11¼	4	0	
NARKUNDA ...	D B*	5	11	4	0	
KOTGARH ...	D B*	2	10¾	4	0	
NIRIT ...	R B	2	10	4	0	
RAMPUR ...	R B	1	13	4	0	
GAURA ...	R B	1	6½	4	0	
SARAHAN ...	R B	2	10½	4	0	
TARANDA ...	R B	2	14	5	0	
PAUNDA ...	R B	2	4½	2	0	
NACHAR ...	F B	2	4½	2	0	
WANGTU ...	R B	2	3	1	0	
URNI ...	R B	2	9¾	4	0	Change at Chagaon, 3 *as.* Urni 1.
ROGI ...	R B	2	10	4	0	
PANGI ...	R B	4	10	4	0	Two sets of rooms.
RARANG ...	Camp		8	4	0	

* At these Bungalows there is a khansamah and staff of servants.

	Bungalow Rooms.	m.	Cooly hire. *a.*	*p.*	
JANGI ...	R B 2	7	4	0	Akpa 2 *as.* Jangi 2 *as.*
LABRANG ...	Camp	11	5	0	
SUGNAM ...	Camp	14	6	0	
POOI ...	Camp	20	6	0	
NAMGEA ...	Camp	11	5	0	Dubling 2 *as.* Khalb 2 *as.* Namgea 1.
SHIPKI ...	Camp	11	4	0	
Total distance—					
viâ RAMPUR ...		228			
viâ BAGI ...		250			

UPPER OR FOREST ROAD.

	Bungalow Rooms.		m.	Cooly hire *a.*	*p.*
NARKUNDA TO BAGI ...	DB*	5	12	4	0
KUDRELLI ...	FB	2	9	4	0
SOONGRI ...	DB	2	9	4	0
BHALI ...	DB	2	10	4	0
TACHLECH ...	FB	1	10	5	0
DARAN ...	FB	2	10	5	0
SARAHAN ...	RB	2	14	5	0

'SIMLA' TO THE 'CHOR MOUNTAIN.'

	m.	ft.	
FAGU ...	12	8,178	Road well-known.
	$2\frac{1}{2}$	...	'Cheog' forest, fine deodars and temple; road lies on a level straight through forest, then descends to 'Kot' (4,300).
KOT ...	$8\frac{3}{4}$	...	

* At these Bungalows there is a khansamah and staff of servants.

'SIMLA' TO THE 'CHOR MOUNTAIN'—(*concld.*)

	m.	ft.	
Digtall ...	...	4,330	Descend to bed of river; during the
Giri River ...	½	...	rains may be difficult to cross. After crossing there is a steep ascent for ¾ mile; then the road goes on very easy gradient, with
Bhujjil ...	...	5,475	slight rise to 'Bhujjil.' ¾ mile level; 2½ miles of easy ascent of 10 in 100,—good road; the remain-
Bahla ...	7	7,600	der—8 in 100—easy ascent by good road through a fine forest of fir to 'Madhain' Ghat, which is the watershed on the north shoulder
Madhain Ghat ...	3	8,600	of the 'Chor.' Steep ascent all the way; pony no good; room at
Kalabagh ...	4½	10,800	'Kalabagh' for a small camp.
Chor Peak ...	1	11,982	A rough but quite easy ascent.

'POOI' IN 'UPPER KUNOWAR' TO 'DANKAR' IN 'SPITI.'

	hrs.	ft.	
Pooi ...	...	...	Ascend from behind the village for about 5 hours to the top of the
Pass ...	...	10,094	'Chuling' Pass; then a descent of about 3 hours.
Chuling ...	8	11,000	About 10 miles of descent; road fairly easy.
Lio ...	...	...	Cross 'Spiti' river soon after starting by a wooden bridge; and during the march, which is about 15 miles, several small streams
Chango ...	...	...	by bridges for pedestrians only.
Lepcha Pass...	...	13,700	Cross 'Spiti' river by bridge near 'Shalkar' Fort, then cross the 'Lepcha' Pass and descend to 'Somra' on the 'Spiti' river. From 'Chango' there is a road by way of the 'Para' river through
Somra ...	...	...	Chinese territory into 'Ladak.'
Lari ...	...	...	Cross 'Spiti' river by a 'jhula' and up left bank of river to 'Lari'.
Poi or Pok ...	6	...	Up left bank crossing several small streams. Same as last march.
Dankar ...		12,700	Capital of 'Spiti.

'CHINI' TO 'LANDOUR.'

	m.	ft.	
CHINI ...	...	...	Descend to Sutlej, cross by a 'jhula' at Poari, then ascend to 'Barang.
POARI ...	3	...	
BARANG ...	10	...	Steep ascent followed by level to 'Meibar,' change coolies, then ascend Pass about 12,000, then rough descent into 'Baspa' valley.
PASS ...	9	...	
JANGA ...	16	...	Up right bank of 'Baspa,' change coolies at 'Rukchum;' road is rough; take supplies for coolies from here.
CHITKUL ...	16	...	Up right bank of 'Baspa'; no trees, road rough.
SANCHA ...	10	...	Road rough, at four miles descend into river bed; follow it for about six miles, ford stream several times, camp near Neela Glacier.
CAMP ...	12	...	Ascend glacier and ascend to Neela Pass about 18,000 feet, steep snow ascent near top, descend two miles to stream along which for two miles, and camp.
NEELA PASS ...	8	...	
KARKUTI ...	12	...	Descend into Ganges valley.
DERALI ...	16	...	Good but narrow road.
JANGLA BUNGALOW	4½	...	Then ascent followed by descent, at four miles, confluence of Ganges and 'Neela' rivers; from here visit 'Gangotri' and 'Gowmukhi.'
CAMP ...	9	...	
JANGLA ...	...	...	Cross river at 'Hirsai,' then down right bank of Ganges; cross several streams.
JHALA ...	9	...	
DANGAL ...	9	...	
BATHARI ...	11	...	Gradual descent by right bank of Ganges, change coolies at 'Minarie.'
BARAHAT ...	15	...	
DARASU ...	15	...	Ascent, then descent, followed by steep ascent.
LALLURI ...	9	...	Long ascent to top of Pass, then long descent.
BHOWANEE ...	16	...	First three miles level, then ascent to 'Magar,' after which very steep ascent to 'Teree' road, seven miles from Landour.
LANDOUR ...	18	...	
Total, about ...	200		

NOTE.—A better way is to ascend the 'Baspa' from its junction with the Sutlej, near 'Kilba.

The following routes are taken from Towelle's Hand-book and Guide to Simla and the Interior (Third Edition, 1890).

SIMLA TO DHURMSALA *VIA* KOTGURH, DULARSH, BAJAPORA, AND BEIJNATH.

Names of stages.	Distances.	Remarks.
	Miles.	
Fagoo ...	12	Supplies—Dák Bungalow.
Theog ...	4½	Do. do. Joined the road from Fagoo at 7¼ miles. Theog *viâ* Fagoo, is distant from Simla 16½ miles.
Muttiana ...	11	Traveller's Bungalow. Water and supplies.
Narkunda ...	12	Traveller's Bungalow. Bazaar most picturesquely situated. Scenery magnificent. On Mount Huttoo, 10,469, just above Narkunda, there is splendid shooting. Narkunda is charmingly adapted for a short trip from Simla. Elevation 9,000 feet.
Kotgurh ...	9½	Traveller's Bungalow, latter part of road leads into Kôtgurh. Very steep descent. This is a British possession. There is a mission house and small Church, and there are two tea plantations.
Kumarsen ...	3¾	Small village, supplies scarce, water plentiful.
Dularsh ...	9½	Village, supplies and water, camping ground good. On leaving Komarsen 4 miles descent to Sutlej, which is crossed at Kêpoo, by a bridge 180 feet span. Then ascent by steep and broad road to Dularsh.
Chuhaie ...	7	Village, few supplies, but water plentiful, encamping ground.
Kot ...	9	Small village, supplies and water, limited encamping ground, tiring ascents and descents on this march.
Jeebhee ..	11¼	Village, supplies and water plentiful. A temple. Road tolerably good, steep ascent for four miles to Jalori Pass (elevation 11,500 feet) then descent to Jeebhee, cross a bridge at 9 miles.

SIMLA TO DHURMSALA *VIA* KOTGURH, DULARSH, BAJAPORA, AND BEIJNATH—(*contd.*)

Names of stages.	Distances.	REMARKS.
	Miles.	
MUNGLOUR ...	$8\frac{3}{4}$	Small village situated below Platch, supplies and water. Road tedious, several nullas. There is another route from Kôtgurh to Munglour—as follows :— Nirth ... $11\frac{1}{4}$ miles. Rampore ... 12 ,, Cross Sutlej. Ursua ... 7 ,, Suronee ... 12 ,, Thar ... 9 ,, Munglour 12 ,,
LARGI ...	$8\frac{1}{2}$	Village—on bank of Synj at its junction with the Chôta, and about 200 yards from confluence with Beas. Steep ascents and descents, nulla bridged.
BAJAORA ...	12	Bazaar, old Fort, few supplies, water plentiful, very limited encamping ground. Road runs for some distance along Valley of the Beas about 1,000 feet above the River. Cross the Beas at 9 miles, where it is wide and the current strong. There is a tea plantation at Bajaora, and Sultanpoor lies ten miles North, on the road to Lāhol.
DOLCHIE ...	10	Villages, few supplies, water, small encamping ground. Road bad, ascends for eight miles to summit of Pass (elevation 9,150 feet), then descends to Dolchie, where the road from Amballa *viâ* Roopur joins on.
JUGROO KOOPROO. ...	8	Water scarce, supplies ditto. Encamping ground. Road ascends and crosses Ool at $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles.
FATAKUL ...	11	Small bungalow, almost in ruins, no supplies, water scarce—good encamping ground. Road along bare hill, no water to be met with. Pheasants and black partridge plentiful. (Elevation, 7,100 feet.)

SIMLA TO DHURMSALA *VIA* KOTGURH, DULARSH, RAJAPORA AND BEIJNATH—(*concld.*)

Names of stages.	Distances.	Remarks.
	Miles.	
HAURBAUG ...	$8\frac{1}{2}$	Village, supplies, water limited, encamping ground. Road descending all the way.
PIPROLEH ...	14	Village, supplies, water, shady encamping ground. Road level for 10 miles, then tedious descents to Beijnath, and the Binnoo; at Beijnath there is a tea plantation. An ancient temple, a great resort of pilgrims. (Elevation, 3,337 feet). From Piproleh to Kangra 3 marches, *viz.*— Burwaneh ... 9 miles. Nugrotch ... 11 ,, Kangra ... 8 ,,
HOLTA ...	6	Village, tea plantation, supplies, water and encamping ground good.
PUTHYAR ...	12	Village, supplies, water, encamping ground good. Road crosses several streams,
DHURMSALA ...	8	

SIMLA TO LE

Viâ Kôtgurh, Rampoor, Sultanpoor, the right bank of the Beas and the Rotang and Bara Lacha passes.

Names of stages.	Distances.	Remarks.
	Miles.	
FAGOO ...	12	Traveller's Bungalow and supplies.
THEOG ...	$4\frac{1}{3}$	Do. do.
MUTTIANA ...	11	Do. do.
NARKUNDA ...	12	Do. do.
KÔTGURH (BRITISH)	$9\frac{1}{2}$	Do. do.

SIMLA TO LE—(*contd.*)

Names of stages.	Distances.	Remarks.
	Miles.	
Nirth (on Bank of Sutlej)	11½	Small Traveller's Bungalow and supplies.
Rampoor (Capital of Bussahir), 3,300 feet A. S. L.	12	" do. (½ mile beyond the town.)
Ursur ...	7	Good encamping ground, supplies, cross Sutlej by bridge at Rampoor.
Surone, 6,000 feet A.S. L.	12	Half-way up the Dhol pass, encamping ground, supplies and water.
Thar or Bather ...	9	Supplies scarce, camping ground and water.
Munglour ...	12	Village, supplies scarce, water plentiful. The road from Kôtgurh *viâ* Dularsh joins in at the Chôta, which is crossed by a bridge. The marches from Kôtgurh are:— Komarsen ... 3¾ miles. Dularsh ... 9½ " Chuhaie ... 7 " Kot ... 9 " Jeebhee ...11¼ " Munglour ... 9 "
Larji ...	8½	
Bajaoro ...	12	
Sultanpoor (Capital of Kooloo), 4,092 feet.	10	Supplies and water, accommodation in Baradurree, and camping ground, country richly cultivated. The Beas flows close by Sultanpoor.
Nuggur, 5,780 feet A. S. L.	13	Supplies, water and accommodation, a small civil Station. On leaving Sultanpoor descend by an easy flight of steps to the Beas, which is then crossed by a bridge.
Jagatsuk, 5,985 feet A. S. L.	8¾	Village, supplies and water, camping ground, country very beautiful. There is a magnificent cascade here. From Jagatsuk there is a road to Chataloo, in Lahol, *viâ* Cheka.
Burwa ...	8½	Village, supplies and water. It is necessary to take supplies and coolies from here, before crossing the Rotang pass.

SIMLA TO LE—(*contd.*)

Names of stages.	Distances.	Remarks.
	Miles.	
Rahla, 9,000 feet A. S. L.	5	Encamping ground small, no supplies, water plentiful. Rahla is the head of the Kooloo valley and at the foot of the Rotang pass. From Sultanpoor there is another road to Rahla on the right bank of Beas. Dewara ... 12 miles. Munauli ... 13 ,, Rahla ... 30 ,,
Kokser (in Lahoul)	14	Supplies and fuel scarce, water procurable. On leaving Rahla the ascent of the Rotang pass is commenced, either by a flight of steps 4 miles in length or by a very bad zig-zag; in August the pass is clear of snow, elevation of the crest is 15,200 feet, after desçending a steep road and crossing numerous torrents at the foot the Chundra is crossed by a bridge, which is made of birch twigs. Lahoul is chiefly inhabited by Thibetans.
Sisu, 9,938 feet	9	Small village on right bank of Chundra—supplies and fuel scarce—road very bad, five torrents are crossed.
Gundla, 10,300	8	Village, supplies and water plentiful.
Kailing ...	10	Large village, supplies plentiful. On the opposite bank of the river is Korbung, a large village with a travellers' Bungalow. The confluence of the Chundra and Bhaga is just above Tandi, where the road turns off to Dhurmsála, *viâ* Chumba and to Srinuggur, *viâ* Kishtwar; these places are distant from India 120 and 277 miles respectively.
Kolang ...	12	Village, supplies and water.
Darcha, 10,844	11	Do. do. The country becomes less inhabited as the Bhaga is ascended. From Darcha the road turns off to Lè by the Shinkul pass. By this route Lè is distant 23 marches or about 200 miles.

SIMLA TO LE—(*concld.*)

Names of stages.	Distances.	Remarks.
	Miles.	
Patsco, 12,464	11	Village, supplies and water, country desolate, supplies and coolies must be taken on from this, as nothing is procurable beyond, for 8 or 9 marches.
Zingzingbar.	7½	Small encamping ground half-way up the Bara Lacha pass, no supplies, water procurable, road bad, crossing the Bhaga at Patsco.
Talaoki ...	12	Small encamping ground, no supplies, water procurable. Road difficult, leading for 2 miles over the Bara Lacha pass, which is 16,200 feet at crest.
Chasung ...	12	Few huts, no supplies, water procurable, road over a black table-land.
Sundu ...	9	No coolies or supplies, road bad, leading over a difficult pass.
Pung ...	9	Small village, few supplies occasionally procurable.
Roksing ...	15	Do. supplies procurable.
Tahlung ...	12	Do. do.
Ghair ...	12	Do. do.
Machilung ...	15	Do. do.
Le (Capital of Ladak) elevation, 10,500 feet; Lat., 34° 10′; Long., 77° 40′.	11	Supplies and water abundant, there are between 500 and 550 houses and a population of about 2,500 souls.

FROM SIMLA TO SRINUGGUR.

Fagoo ...	12	
Theog ...	4½	
Mutteana ...	11	
Narkunda ...	12	Or *viâ* Bagee 10.
Kotgurh ...	9½	
Nirth ...	11½	
Rampur ...	12	
Ursur ...	7	
Surone ...	9	
Thar or Bather.	9	

FROM SIMLA TO SRINUGGUR—(*contd.*)

Names of stages.	Distances.	REMARKS.
	Miles.	
MUNGLOUR ...	12	
LARGI ...	$8\frac{1}{2}$	
BAJORA ...	12	
SULTANPOOR ...	10	
DWARA ...	12	Village, supplies and water.
MUNAULI ...	13	Do. do.
RAHLA ...	10	Encamping ground at foot of Rotang pass, no supplies, water plentiful.
KOKSER ...	14	
SISU ...	9	
GUNDLA ...	8	The other route by the left bank of Beas from Sultanpoor is as follows— Nuggur ... 13 miles. Jugatsuk ... $8\frac{3}{4}$,, Burwa ... $8\frac{1}{2}$,, Rahla ... 5 ,,
TANDI ...	7	Village, supplies and water.
JURMA ...	14	Do. do.
TRILOKNATH, 9,566 ...	12	Do. do.
ODAPOOR ...	6	Do. do.
MIYAR, 10,215	10	Few huts, no supplies.
CHIRPAT ...	3	Do. do.
LEIAS ...	15	Do. do. Road difficult, a long steep ascent to the top of the Gurdaar pass 17,500 feet, then a very difficult descent, almost impracticable for laden coolies ,footsteps have to be cut in the snow ; the last 2 or 3 miles the descent is somewhat easier, but very stony.
BATAOR, 11,633	6	Few huts, no supplies.
LECHOO ...	8	Small village, no supplies.
SAUCH, 7,886 ...	10	Village, supplies and water.
KILAR, 8,411 ...	8	Do. do.
DARWAS, 8,411	6	Do. do.
USDARI ...	10	No supplies.
SOHUL ...	11	Village, supplies and water.
GOOLABGURH	6	Do. do.
JHAR ...	4	Do. do.
SIREREE ...	10	No supplies.
LIDRAREE ...	7	Do. do.
PYAS ...	7	Do. do.

FROM SIMLA TO SRINUGGUR—(*concld.*)

Names of stages.		Distances.	Remarks.
		Miles.	
BHAGNA	...	9	No supplies and water.
KISHTWAR	...	12	Large town, supplies and water.
MOGUL MAI-DAN	...	16	
SINGPUR	...	16	
WANKRINGI	...	16	
WANGAM	...	9	
ISLAMABAD	...	17	
AVANTIPUR	...	17	
SRINUGGUR	...	18	

FROM SIMLA TO CHACKRATA *VIA* FAGOO AND MUNDOL.

FAGOO	...	12	A good Dawk Bungalow, supplies, elevation 8,300 feet.
SYNJ	...	8	A village, from which camping ground half a mile, steep descent to the Giri fordable, after which road level.
DHAR	...	7	Large village, prettily situated, supplies abundant, shady camping ground; the latter part of the stage the road runs through dense forest.
PATERNALLA	...	6	No supplies. Water, road ascends to village near summit of hill, elevation 9,370 feet. Descent to a torrent, then another steep ascent through forest of oak and holly.
CHEPAL	...	10	A village, water, a few supplies, road through forest, steep descent about half-way just before coming to the road to the Chor. From this the summit of the Chor is distant about 24 miles. Elevation 7,695 feet.
PEONTREE	...	11	A village, supplies scarce, water available, road running near the bank of the Shallu for about 3 miles through cultivation.
TIKRI	...	8	A village, supplies scarce, water, the road descends to the Shallu, which is crossed at 2 miles, then an ascent, another descent to a valley. Again an ascent of about 3 miles.

FROM SIMLA TO CHACKRATA *VIA* FAGOO AND MUNDOL—(*concld.*)

Names of stages.	Distances.	REMARKS.
	Miles.	
MUNDOL ...	5	A village, supplies scarce, water, road hrough forests, crossing a small stream, he end of the march road steep.
MAINDROT ...		Water plentiful, good camping ground. Steep descent to the Tonse, which is crossed at 5 miles by a wire suspension bridge ; as far as the river the road is the old one from Simla to Landour, from there a new forest road.
JAKIN LANI ...		Gradual ascent through forest, water at a distance from road, no camping ground.
KINANIPANI ...	11	Water abundant, camping ground extensive, road at first precipitous, then easy to Lokur at 6 miles. This is usually made the march from Maindrot, as there is a forest Bungalow there.
CHACKRATA ...	15	A Cantonment, supplies and water plentiful, road an easy gradient along the top of the main ridge between the Tonse and Jumna rivers. Pass Deobun at 11 miles, from thence a descent of 2,000 feet to Chakrata.
Total 12 marches	112	Elevation 7,364 feet.

SIMLA TO DALHOUSIE *VIA* BUDDEE, HAJEEPOOR AND PATHANKOT.

Names of stages. From Simla Church to	Distances.	REMARKS.
	Miles.	
SYRIE ...	10	A small Bazaar, supplies and water, camping ground extremely limited, constant ascents and descents, cross the Gumbur at 1½ miles, pass Hurripoor at 2½ miles, the road to Belaspoor at 6¾ miles, Belaspoor distant 38 miles.

SIMLA TO DALHOUSIE *VIA* BUDDEE, HAJEEPOOR AND PATHANKOT—(*contd.*)

Names of stages.	Distances.	REMARKS.
	Miles.	
KUKKUR HUTTEE.	10	Small village, supplies, water, an Hotel, camping ground limited. Bridge over Gumbur.
KHUDLEE ...	7	A small village, supplies scarce, water, camping ground limited, steep ascents and descents, pass Jharmajra at 1¾, Runahal at 4, Dhajar at 6 and Pata at 9¼ miles.
BUDDEE ...	11	Small village, at the foot of the Himalayas, supplies, water, small camping ground, road good, except in a few places where it runs along banks of the Sirsa, which is forded at 10 miles.
JUGATKHANA...	8	Small village, supplies and water, good camping ground, country cultivated, road fair, pass Kotlah at 1, Meanpoor at 4½, and Mundwara at 7½ miles.
ABSEANAH ...	8	Cross Sutlej by ferry. Village right bank Sutlej, water good, camping ground, country well cultivated, road stony, but fair ; pass Fort Plassi, belonging to Rajah of Nalaghur at 2 miles on bank Sirsa.
NOORPOOR ...	7	Large village and thana, supplies and water abundant, camping ground very good, country well cultivated. Road heavy, cross several nullas, a matter of some difficulty after much rain.
PHULAN ...	9	A village, supplies have to be collected, water, good camping ground, river Sohan to be forded half way, road as in last stage, pass Mawa at 2 miles
SUNTOKHGURH	7	A small village, camping ground good, country and road as in the last stage.
CONAH ...	9	A small town, with a tehsil and thana, supplies and water to be had, camping ground good, country fertile ; road good, cross and recross the Sohan half-way, fordable.

SIMLA TO DALHOUSIE *VIA* BUDDEE, HAJEEPOOR AND PATHANKOT—(*contd.*)

Names of stages.	Distances.	REMARKS.
	Miles.	
CHUROOROO ...	10	A small village, supplies and water, camping ground good, country hilly, road fair.
MUBARIKPUR	10	A village at the foot of the Sola Singhee range. Supplies procurable on notice given, water, country very hilly, road tolerable, pass Huttee at 3 and Umb at 7 miles. Road from Hoshyarpoor to Dhurmsála, *viâ* Nadaon passes through Umb, and *viâ* Gopeepùr Derah through Mùbarikpoor. Five Nullas to cross.
DOWLATPOOR...	7	A small village, country and road as in last stage, supplies and water. Eleven Nullas to cross.
TULWARA ...	14	Several Nullas to cross. Village on right bank of Beas, camping ground good, supplies and water available. Pass Huttee on the banks of the Sohan at 6 miles. No water between Huttee and Tulwara.
HAJIPOOR ...	9¼	A large village, supplies and water, camping ground good; pass Buhera at 1 and Hindwall at 6¾ miles.
MEERTHUL ...	12	A village on right bank of Beas, supplies and water; river Beas crossed by ferry.
PATHANKOT ...	11¼	A small town with an old fort, at the foot of the hills, a serai for Europeans, supplies and water abundant, camping ground good; pass Nipwal at 2¼, Hounterpura at 3½, and cross the Chukee by a ford at 10 miles. Noorpoor is 17½ miles from Pathankot.
DHAR ...	17	Small village, supplies and water, camping ground on the top of the Dhar range of hills, close to the bungalow. Country mountainous, road fit for carts except in the rains.
DOONEIRA ...	11	Small village at the foot of the high range of hills; supplies and water, camping ground good, four Nullas to cross. Road joins the one from Noor-

SIMLA TO DALHOUSIE *VIA* BUDDEE, HAJEEPOOR AND PATHANKOT—(*concld.*)

Names of stages.	Distances.	Remarks.
	Miles.	
		poor at 9 miles; the road from Dhurmsála to Dalhousie passes through Dooneira, the former distant 48½, the latter 22¼ miles.
MAMOOL ...	9	A village, supplies and water, country hilly, road descends steeply for 2 miles, when it crosses the Naini Khud, where it becomes difficult, and in the rainy season even dangerous on ascent to Mamool; from here Bakloh is distant 2½ miles.
BULEYRA ...	5½	A village, supplies and water, country hilly, ascents and descents practicable for camels in dry weather, and laden mules at all times.
DALHOUSIE ...	7¼	Station, Cantonment and Sanitarium.
Total 22 marches ...	219	

The following are taken from "Routes in the Western Himalayas, Kashmir, &c., by the late Lieut.-Colonel T. G. Montgomerie, R.E., F.R.S., F.R.G.S."

MASURI TO SIMLA BY CHAKRAOTA (NEW ROAD).

Names of Halting Places.	Distances.	Height.	Remarks.
	Miles.	ft.	
MASURI TO		6,599	Top of library.
LAKWAR D.B.	15	...	Cross Jumna by suspension bridge. Supplies plentiful.
NAGTAT R.B...	7	...	Road good. Supplies procurable.
POKRI „ ...	8	...	Road good. Supplies scarce.

MASURI TO SIMLA BY CHAKRAOTA (NEW ROAD)—(*concld.*)

Names of Halting Places.	Distances.	Height.	REMARKS.
	Miles.	ft.	
CHAKRAOTA ... D.B.	9	7,300	Road good.
KINANIPANI ...	15	...	Road good. Some precipices passed through.
KUTIYAN F.B.	12	...	Road good.
MAINDROT ,, ...	9	...	Gradual descent. On the Tons.
MANDHOLI ,, ...	9	...	Cross Tons R. at 4 miles, after which road rather steep and bad. Supplies scarce.
TIKRI OR PEKRI	5	...	Road pretty good. Supplies scarce.
PIANTRA OR KEDI.	8	...	Cross the Shallu R. at 6 miles. Supplies scarce.
CHIPAL ...	11	7,695	Road good. Supplies scarce.
PATARNALA ...	10	9,368	Change coolies. No supplies.
DHAR OR GODHNA.	6	...	Large village. Supplies plentiful.
SAINJ ...	7	8,300	Cross the R. Giri (fordable). Supplies procurable. Road fair.
FAGU ...	8	.	Bungalow. Supplies procurable. Road fair.
SIMLA ...	12	7,084	Road good.
Total ...	151		

MASURI TO SIMLA; BY OLD ROAD.

	Miles.	ft.	
MASURI TO ...	...	6,599	Top of library.
MUDARSU ...	13	...	......
THOINA OR THYNA.	8	...	Cross R. Jumna by suspension bridge.
POKRI D.B. ...	14	...	......
DEOBAND ...	13	9,347	Bungalow.
BANDRAOLI ...	13	...	.. ...
KANDA ...	11	...	......
TIKRI OR PEKRI.	11	...	Cross the Tons R. at 3 miles.
SIMLA ...	62	7,084	As in No. 41.
Total ...	145		

SIMLA TO BELASPUR AND MANDI; BY JUTOGH.

Names of Halting Places.	Distances.	Height.	REMARKS.
	Miles.	ft.	
SIMLA TO		7,084	Church.
JUTOGH ...	5	...	Supplies and water procurable.
ERKI ...	16	...	Road fair. Supplies and water procurable.
NAMULI ...	14	...	Road fair. Supplies and water scarce.
BELASPUR ...	12	...	On left bank of the Sutlej; supplies and water plentiful.
SUKET ...	22	2,965	Cross the Sutlej by bridge.
MANDI ...	11	3,006	On left bank of the Beas R.; cross Sukaty river a little below Chugwan village and follow the left bank of it.
Total ...	80		

SIMLA TO SRINAGAR (KASHMIR); BY KANGRA AND CHAMBA.

	Miles.	ft.	
SIMLA TO		7,084	Church.
SAIRI ...	10	...	Dâk Bungalow.
SAHIKI HATI...	20	...	Bungalow. Supplies procurable after due notice.
BELASPUR ...	21½	...	Supplies and water plentiful, road fair.
KUNAR HATI...	9	...	Cross Sutlej R. by bridge. Supplies procurable after due notice.
DANGAH ..	8	...	......
HAMIRPUR ...	16	...	Bungalow and Thana.
NADAON ...	14¼	...	......
JUALA MUKHI	6½	1,883	Serai. Cross the Beas by ferry.
RANITAL ...	11½	...	Dâk Bungalow. Supplies and water procurable.
KANGRA ...	9	2,419	Dâk Bungalow and encamping ground.
RILLOO (HUTLI)	13	...	......
SIHANTA ...	12	...	Road bad for ponies.
RAPIR ...	9	...	Do. do.

SIMLA TO SRINAGAR (KASHMIR); BY KANGRA AND CHAMBA—(*concld.*)

Names of Halting Places.	Distances.	Height.	Remarks.	
	Miles.	ft.		
Chuari ...	7	...	Road bad for ponies.	
Rareri ...	14	...	Cross pass; steep ascent for 5 miles.	
Chamba ...	6	3,033	Road bad. Cross Ravee by bridge. Báradari.	
Manjeri ...	16	...	Steep ascent; cross low pass. Cross R. Shool on massaks.	
Digi or Kirah	11	...	Bad road. Cross Kandi Marl to left bank.	or Manjeri
Bungul ...	11	...	Bad road.	Thunun 12
Camp (Mur) ...	10	...	......	Langera 9
Badrawar ...	12	5,427	Cross Padri Pass; short ascent and very steep descent.	Thannala 15
				Badrawar 8
Kalen ...	11	...	......	
Doda ...	10	...	Cross R. Chandra Bhaga or Chenab by rope bridge.	
Bhagwan ...	7	...	... ..	
Gayi ...	9	...	Bad road. Follow up the source of Lider Khol stream.	
Camp ...	7	...	......	
Chaon ...	13	...	Cross Braribal Pass; steep ascent and descent.	
Vernag ...	10	6,500	Báradari. Supplies and coolies abundant.	
Srinagar ...	52	5,235		
Total ...	355¾			

SIMLA TO SRINAGAR (KASHMIR); BY KULU, CHAMBA AND BADRAWAR.

	Miles.	ft.	
Simla to		7,084	Church.
Bajaora ...	120		Dâk Bungalow.
Komand ...	13		Cross pass (6,000 ft.); steep ascent.

SIMLA TO SRINAGAR (KASHMIR); BY KULU, CHAMBA AND BADRAWAR—(*concld.*)

Names of Halting Places.	Distances.	Height.	REMARKS.
	Miles.	ft.	
SAURI ...	8		Cross Ul river by bridge; ascent. } Old route.
FATAKAL ...	11		
HAURBAUG ...	10		
BAIJNATH ...	17	3,337	Dâk Bungalow and encamping ground.
BUNDLEH ...	11		Putiyar is about half-way between Bundleh and Bhagsu.
BHAGSU CANT.	19	4,058	Cross several torrents; Dharmsála is just above Bhagsu. Encamping ground.
RILLOO (HUTLI)	17		
SRINAGAR ...	227	5,235	
Total ...	453		

SIMLA TO THE TOP OF THE SHALLE PEAK.

From Major Gordon Forbes' "Simla to Shipki."

Leave Simla after early breakfast; first to Mashobra, then descent, easy to Sipi, after which it is steeper and in places rather rough, down to the Nowle Gad river, which must be forded, as there is no bridge. After crossing there is a steep ascent to the village of Kŭtnōl, which should be reached during the afternoon; there is a very good place to camp in a grove of pine trees above the village. Start early next morning, taking food and *water also* for the day as there is none to be found further up the mountain; the last part of the ascent is very steep; a pony can be taken up part of the way. The actual summit is very small, most of it being taken up with a Temple. The height of the peak is about 9,400. Kŭtnōl is about the same level as Mashobra.

A *purwana* should be procured from the Deputy Commissioner, Simla, for the supplies required.

INDEX.

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